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THE TIMES

No. 65,273

MONDAY MAY 22 1995

History being rewritten, says Clarke

Thatcher stirs ministers to fight back

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR Conservatives rounded on Baroness Thatcher last night after she attacked John Major's leadership and accused the Government of dodging important decisions.

Kenneth Clarke led the counter-offensive, accusing the former Prime Minister of rewriting history and pointing out that many of the Government's problems had arisen from her administration. Others privately described Lady Thatcher as "an irrelevance", "out of touch" and "suffering the effects of sour grapes".

The Prime Minister was reported to have been infuriated by his predecessor's barely disguised personal attacks on him. One colleague described him as "not best pleased", adding that he felt she had gone too far in her sniping for her remarks to be ignored.

Lady Thatcher's criticisms appear in the second volume of her memoirs, *The Path to Power*, which is to be serialised in *The Sunday Times* from next week. Yesterday the paper reported that she wants dramatic changes in domestic and foreign policy, but the main subject of her onslaught is the Prime Minister's approach to Europe.

She claims that Mr Major's policy of putting Britain "at the heart of Europe" led directly to the worst recession for fifty years, and declares that Britain must be prepared to fight its corner by "pursuing every measure of obstruction and disruption open to us". Her radical agenda "to put things right" includes a fight to regain power for Westminster, a rejection of the Mas-



Thatcher: obstruction wanted in Europe

tricht Treaty and a total break with all moves towards political union within the EU.

Mr Clarke fiercely rejected her criticisms yesterday, saying that decisions made during her time in Downing Street had caused many of the problems that had dogged Mr Major's premiership.

The Chancellor told the BBC's *On The Record* programme: "The origins of the recession, which happened in every other Western country, came when we got monetary policy wrong. We carried on relaxing in the late 1980s when we had a very successful growing economy. They relaxed it for too long and... we had boom followed by bust."

"It was during Margaret's time in government that it happened. I am not going to start attacking Margaret's Government, I served all the way through it and it was a damn good Government."

"If Margaret was in office now she would be complaining about people reminiscing

and slightly rewriting what happened a few years ago, wanting us to look forward."

Other senior Conservatives said that Lady Thatcher was in danger of emulating Sir Edward Heath by attacking her successor.

The ferocity of the reaction indicated fears that Lady Thatcher's remarks could lead to further unrest among backbenchers, many of whom are already annoyed that they may have to declare their outside earnings as a result of the Nolan committee investigation set up by Mr Major.

Labour gleefully seized on the divisions yesterday, claiming that Lady Thatcher's comments reflected the growing disenchantment with Mr Major's leadership. It said the intensity of the counter-attack "shows clearly that the party is consumed by panic".

Labour also pointed to Lady Thatcher's statement that it was "for others to take the action required" as being reminiscent of Lord Howe's prophetic words before her downfall in 1990. When he resigned as Foreign Secretary, he told the Commons: "The time has come for others to consider their response to the tragic conflict of loyalty with which I have myself wrestled for perhaps too long."

Lady Thatcher's friends insisted, however, that she was calling for a change of policy rather than a change of leadership. They also said that she had not intended to cause offence, and had been surprised at the backlash.

In her book, Lady Thatcher says that she did not want to undermine her successor, adding: "I had faced sufficient difficulties with Ted Heath not to wish to inflict similar ones."

But Tristram Garel-Jones, the former Europe minister who is a close friend of Mr Major, suggested that she had failed. "Ted, at least, was, and remains an MP, so he does have some democratic platform from which to put his views, unhelpful though they were to her," he said. "I think she should draw lessons from that."

Mr Garel-Jones also pointed out that many of the problems she saw with Brussels power were enshrined in the Single European Act, which she steered through Parliament. Sir Geoffrey Johnson-Smith, vice-chairman of the backbench 1922 Committee, also said that Lady Thatcher was responsible for handing over a number of key powers to Brussels, adding: "She has got out of touch since she left office."

Euro-sceptic MPs, however, supported her. Bill Cash said: "What she is saying is true. She must talk out because the stakes are so high."

His message in the annual Mait lecture at the City University, London, will be seen as Continued on page 2, col 1

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Bruce Anderson, page 8



Emma Thompson, star of the film *Carrington*, with co-star Jonathan Pryce, right, and director Christopher Hampton in Cannes yesterday

Film-makers cast Dorrell as the villain

FROM DALYA ALBERGE IN CANNES

STEPHEN DORRELL, the Heritage Secretary who recently found himself unable to remember the last film he had seen, was yesterday trying to prove his interest in cinema by spending a day at the Cannes Film Festival.

But once again the script did not go as planned. As he was whisked from one meeting to another like some heavy-weight Hollywood mogul, mingling with the movers and shakers of the industry, two of Britain's leading film-makers launched a vicious attack on his apparent lack of interest in the cinema.

Christopher Hampton, the writer and director of

Carrington, a film about Dora Carrington, *femme fatale* of the Bloomsbury Group, said: "Perhaps if the Heritage Secretary went a little more often to the cinema, he would see

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that it has some merits." He added that "the Government could hardly have done less if they had made cinema illegal in Britain".

John McGrath, the producer of *Carrington*, added: "The minister should either provide a consistent film policy or get

rid of his Government. Either will do."

Mr Dorrell was due to attend the film's premiere last night. He was also expected to be introduced to the film-makers before going off to a party. There is speculation that Mr Dorrell will replace Virginia Bottomley as Health Secretary in an reshuffle, but the Heritage Secretary insisted that he expected to "see the job through".

He is unlikely to get the support being enjoyed by his opposite number in France. More than 50 actors and film-makers have petitioned Jacques Chirac, the new President, to keep Jacques Toubon

on as Arts Minister. Seemingly undeterred by the day's events, but responding to earlier criticisms, Mr Dorrell insisted that he had rediscovered a love of film that he had as a young man.

But minutes later he had made another *faux pas*. Referring to Jeanne Moreau, the French actress who has been described as an incarnation of French femininity and who heads this year's Cannes festival jury, he said: "The jury is headed by a distinguished Frenchman."

The trip comes as Mr Dorrell prepares to publish on June 6 his response to the film industry report by a parlia-



Dorrell: gaffe-prone

mentary select committee. He said yesterday that he intends to set out a "clear view of where government can help" but would not elaborate.

Blair breaks with past on inflation

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR will today make a decisive break with Labour's past by pledging that the war against inflation will be the central aim of his economic policy in government.

In a radical shift from his party's traditional economic thinking, which regarded rising prices as an acceptable trade off for higher growth and more employment, the Labour leader will warn his party that it faces a "long haul" to put the economy right and that it should expect no swift solutions.

He will tell it that it should not anticipate the sort of short term dash for growth that characterised Labour and Tory governments in the 1970s and 1980s. "New Labour means being tough on inflation," he will tell a City audience.

In a speech which Mr Blair

regards as his most important since he became leader last July — even on a par with his conference address on Clause Four last autumn — the Labour leader will say that economic courage and economic credibility are the two key tests that the party must pass.

Mr Blair believes that getting Labour to ditch the old Clause Four and its ancient commitment to public ownership was the most important party reform he could have carried through. But he sees the toughness of its economic approach and the discipline it shows in pushing it through as the deciding factor in the success of a Labour government.

His message in the annual Mait lecture at the City University, London, will be seen as Continued on page 2, col 1

Leading article, page 19

Girl, 14, found strangled and dumped in woodland

By PAUL WILKINSON

A SCHOOLGIRL was sexually assaulted, beaten and then strangled as she travelled home after meeting a friend.

The semi-clothed body of Janet Swanson, 14, was found by walkers dumped in a woodland a few hundred yards from the bus stop where she was last seen less than three hours before. Last night a youth aged 15 was being questioned by detectives.

Det Supt Malcolm Mawson, leading the inquiry, said that it seemed that Janet had been killed "on the spur of the moment".

The teenager died three weeks after her mother, Hazel, placed her into temporary local authority care because of domestic problems at their home in Killingbeck, Leeds. Mrs Swanson and her husband, Andrew, who are sepa-



Janet Swanson: killed after visit to friend

rated, were both said to be devastated. The girl was last seen alive at 4.40 pm on Saturday at a bus stop on the Killingbeck retail park, less than quarter of a mile from her mother's home.

Detectives said she was returning to her social services

accommodation in the city's Stanningley area after seeing a friend living in a children's home in Killingbeck. Mr Mawson said the teenager, who had two brothers and a sister, was a "quiet, likeable and attractive young girl".

Girls at the home where Janet was living were said to be very upset by her death. Mike Evans, the Leeds assistant director of social services said: "It is an awful tragedy and everyone is absolutely devastated."

He said youngsters at the home were free to come and go as they please.

Mr Evans said staff were concerned that she had not returned for her evening meal and were on the verge of raising the alarm when news of her killing came through.

Police are to check whether sticks and stones at the murder were used as weapons.

Pro-women putsch plotted at universities club

By BEN PRESTON

A CLUBLAND putsch is being plotted against the old guard of the United Oxford and Cambridge University Club in a renewed attempt to secure equal treatment for women.

Campaigners for change are mobilising the 3,000 members for a showdown at the club's annual general meeting on June 12. They are seeking to oust opponents from the committee and push through rule

changes to allow a fresh ballot on full membership for women.

The challenge reflects frustration at the club's continued resistance to change after clashes with the two universities whose names and coats of arms it bears. All but four of the 73 heads of Oxbridge colleges announced their resignations en masse from the club in London's Pall Mall in February. They condemned as offensive rules that forbid women full membership and use of the library

and members' bar. The new front has been opened by five long-standing members, including Sir Patrick Nairne, former Permanent Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security and former Master of St Catherine's College, Oxford, and Sir Geoffrey Chipperfield, former Permanent Secretary at the Department of Energy.

In a letter to members, they say that recent events have caused serious disquiet at the club and have led to

many resignations, with implications for the club's finances. The campaigners argue that the root of the problems was the "undemocratic outcome" of a postal vote in 1993 when 48 per cent of members eligible to vote supported women's membership and only 14.9 per cent voted against. That was not sufficient to bring about change, however, because the club rules had been changed shortly before to require an absolute majority of all those eligible to vote if changes were to be made.

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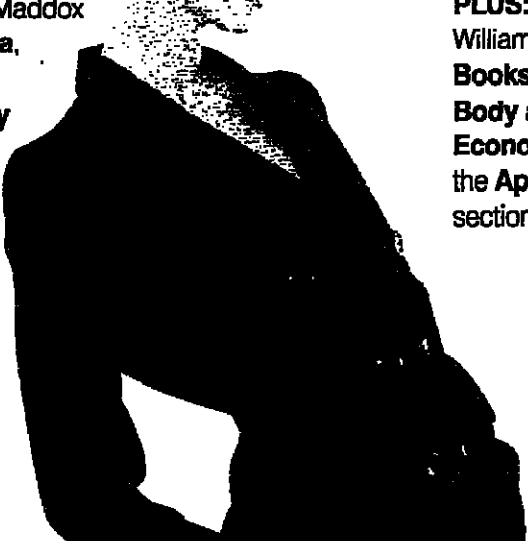
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Some suitable ideas for special occasion dressing

PLUS: Simon Jenkins, Alan Coren, Brenda Maddox on Media, and the Property pages



FILMS

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THE TIMES AT 20p YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT IT

Morris accuses TGWU challenger of 'lust for power'

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

CONTENDERS for the top job in the Transport and General Workers' Union clashed openly yesterday as Bill Morris accused his challenger of having "a lust for power".

In a marked heightening of hostilities in the battle for the general secretaryship of the TGWU, which is the Labour Party's biggest union affiliate, Mr Morris said that if his rival, Jack Dromey, — husband of the Shadow Employment Secretary — were elected, the union's policies would "carved up over the dinner table".

Close supporters of Tony Blair, the Labour leader, are making clear that they would prefer to see Mr Dromey, who is currently the TGWU's national secretary, win the contest, but Mr Morris argues that to do so would in effect hand the union over to modernisers in the Labour Party.

In reply, Mr Dromey, who argued against Mr Morris that TGWU members should have been balloted when the union unsuccessfully opposed Mr Blair's changing of the party's Clause 4, charges that Mr Morris is threatening

Labour's chances of victory in the general election by constantly fighting Mr Blair on key issues.

The two men clashed publicly yesterday when they were both interviewed on BBC's *Breakfast with Frost*. Their row had hitherto been confined to attacks in speeches and press briefings.

Internal union branch nominations currently suggest a 3-2 win for Mr Morris in the postal ballot for the leadership.

Mr Morris said Mr Dromey was a "defeated" candidate who "has run out of ideas, has run out of supporters and now he has run out of loyalty". In suggesting the TGWU was damaging Labour, Mr Dromey was dragging the union's name through the mud, he claimed.

He said he could not see how Mr Dromey and his wife Harriet Harman could carry out their jobs, especially concerning a minimum wage, if Mr Dromey were elected as TGWU leader. In line with the Labour leadership's policy, Ms Harman is advocating that the level of a minimum wage should not be set before the next general election. In

line with TGWU policy, Mr Dromey yesterday declared himself firmly in support of a minimum wage level of £4 an hour.

Mr Morris said of the TGWU battle: "The election is about leadership. It's about experience. It's about loyalty. And it's about trust. I have got all those. My opponent has not."

Responding to Mr Morris, Mr Dromey said: "I regret the attack upon Harriet." The difference between Mr Morris and himself, he said, was that he wanted to spend his time attacking the Conservatives rather than the Labour Party.

He told Sir David Frost: "What I don't want to do is for the union always to be seen in the public arena battling with Tony Blair, because frankly, our members do not understand that."

Mr Morris, he said, was no longer in touch with ordinary shop-floor members of the TGWU, who were sending an "unmistakable" message from union members for change. He said: "They are desperate for change. They are desperate for the union to recover and they are desperate for a Labour government."



Sir Jerry surrounded by journalists at Heathrow

Speaker may let Wiggin off with apology to House

By Arthur Leathley, Political Correspondent

THE mounting backlog of investigations into MPs' conduct could spare Sir Jerry Wiggins a full inquiry into allegations that he broke Commons rules by using the name of a fellow MP to table an amendment to a Bill in which he had a financial interest.

He has been summoned to meet Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, today and it became clear last night that Miss Boothroyd, with the backlog in mind, may not recommend an investigation, which could lead to disciplinary action, and may settle for an apology from the Tory MP for Weston-super-Mare.

The Speaker will announce her decision to the Commons today and anything less than a formal inquiry will be seized on by Labour MPs as a let-off. Sir Jerry, who flew into Heathrow on Saturday after a Parliamentary visit to South Africa, declined to discuss the issue at his home.

Miss Boothroyd's decision will coincide with Labour MPs pressing for a clear sign from the Government

that it will not hold up implementation of the Nolan Committee's recommendations on MPs' conduct. After the Prime Minister said at the weekend that he agreed with the "broad thrust" of the Nolan report, Labour will demand further assurances that a Commons committee set up to consider the proposals will not kill them off.

Mr Major responded to Tony Blair's threat that Labour would not co-operate with the committee unless it was made clear that its intention was to find ways of implementing Nolan's plans by issuing a statement from his Huntingdon home insisting that the committee would go ahead with or without Labour support.

Labour will decide today whether to force a Commons vote on Wednesday on the Nolan report. Party figures said the decision would depend on whether they received adequate assurances today, probably from Tony Newson, the Leader of the Commons.

Peter Riddell, page 18

Clarke attacks Labour over 'copycat' policy

By Alice Thomson, Political Reporter

KENNETH CLARKE attacked Labour yesterday for presenting policies that were indistinguishable from the Government's.

Speaking before Tony Blair delivers a speech on Labour economic policies today, the Chancellor claimed that the Opposition lacked any original thinking and had been forced into mimicking government ideas. "It sounds as though Tony Blair is going to be Bambi pretending to be the Monarch of the Glen."

In an interview with BBC's *On The Record*, Mr Clarke also lambasted the Shadow Chancellor, Gordon Brown. "I must be the first Chancellor who has a Shadow Chancellor who is not criticising what I am doing. Gordon Brown's problem is he thinks what I am doing is working."

"He knows it is working, he knows he could not do any better. He knows I have not persuaded the public of this yet, but he believes over the next two years that this could get very worrying indeed."

Mr Clarke complained that Mr Brown refused to comment on any government poli-

cies, even the controversy over interest-rate rises, because his line was identical. "He is no longer opposing me. All he can do is produce impenetrable prose."

"Public spending — he has no target for that. Taxation — he has no proposals whatsoever. There isn't an economic policy, it's just a lot of guys who realise that tax, borrow and spend failed every time Labour's been in office."

Despite Labour claims of a split, Mr Clarke said that he and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, were united on the need to drive down inflation. He predicted that price rises could be pegged to less than 2 per cent by 1997.

"I think the Ken and Eddie show has got a good track record, and Ken and Eddie are not only agreed on the policy objective — on sustained recovery with low inflation — but we deliver it very consistently," he said. "We must not go back to the days of high taxation and that, throughout all the sort of synthetic verbiage, is where I believe the Labour Party would take us."

Baker gives campers shelter from storm

KENNETH BAKER came to the aid of two campers whose tent had blown down during storms on a Scottish island yesterday.

The former Home Secretary invited the pair, one of whom was a freelance BBC radio presenter, into a moorland lodge where he was waiting for another member of his party: John Birt, Director-General of the BBC.

Innes Munro, 24, a Gaelic radio presenter, and Ian Macleod, 22, a fish processor, had been camping for two days in the hills of Harris, in the Western Isles, when the weather closed in. Mr Munro said: "We were trying to make our way back to the road. It was hard going and Ian was pretty near exhaustion by that time. Suddenly we saw this

Union Jack flying from this cottage-type building. Then this man came out towards us and asked us if we were all right. I did think he was vaguely familiar."

Mr Baker gave them beer and shelter. Mr Munro said: "This nice woman said: 'We're waiting for my husband, John. You may have heard of him at the BBC — he's the Director-General.'"

Mr Baker's party was at the lodge to celebrate a friend's sixtieth birthday. Mrs Birt said that her husband would be interested to meet a BBC presenter in the Hebridean hills, but the pair had recovered sufficiently to leave before he arrived.

Mr Munro said later: "He is the big boss at the Beeb, after all. I hadn't even shaved."

Murdoch condemns 'elitist' Channel 4

Rupert Murdoch, chairman and chief executive of the News Corporation, owner of *The Times*, last night called Channel 4 an unaccountable station whose output ranged from elitism to pornography. He told BBC's *Money Programme* that Channel 4 should be privatised. "It's just a loose cannon which doesn't have to pay dividends or do anything to anybody."

Italian deal, page 44

Clinton plea

President Clinton has called on the Government to establish all-party talks on Northern Ireland at the "earliest possible opportunity".

Prince's visit, page 5

Tombstone death

A girl aged 7 died in a cemetery in Liverpool yesterday when a gravestone fell on her. Two men tried to lift it off and the fire brigade was called. She died in hospital.

Shore to retire

The senior backbencher Peter Shore, 71, a former Labour Cabinet minister, is to stand down at the next election to make way for "a younger person".

Hurley's verdict

The actress Elizabeth Hurley has lambasted Hollywood in a magazine interview. "I thought 70 per cent of the people I met were idiots," she told *Woman's Own*.

Lottery winners

No one won the lottery jackpot of £9.4 million, which will roll over until next week when the top prize could be £17 million. Camelot said.

Numbers, page 22

Engineering results

A list of the newly-qualified chartered, incorporated engineers and engineering technicians will appear in tomorrow's edition of *The Times*.

Blair steals Tory thunder

Continued from page 1 an overt attempt to steal the Conservative thunder on inflation, regarded by most ministers and MPs as the abiding policy success of the Thatcher and Major years. He will promise that Labour will not return to the "crude use" of the demand management and fiscal policies that were a feature of past Labour governments.

The words are bound to upset the Left, which is intent on forcing spending pledges from Mr Blair and his front bench team. But they will clearly be intended to reassure pensioners and others on low incomes that a Blair-led government would not lead to rising prices. They are also

intended to warn City voices, murmuring that a Labour government might relax the stranglehold on inflation, that they are playing with a "dangerous fantasy". He will tell the City audience: "There will be no quick fix solutions such as devaluation or short term rates for growth which led to the boom and bust policies of the past."

Mr Blair will set out the following key planks of policy:

□ Low inflation to be the essential pre-condition for a permanent improvement in the growth rate.

□ Levels of tax and spending as a share of gross domestic product no longer to be seen as the indicators of how well a

government is performing. The overall performance of the economy will determine decisions on tax and spending.

□ A responsibility not just to deregulate markets but to take active measures to boost employment and equality in the labour force. Under Labour, education and training will be "economic imperatives".

The Labour leader's aides said yesterday that he wanted his speech to be subjected to the most rigorous possible judgment by the City, business, economists and the general public. The "new economics" he will outline today would be the governing principles for the next Labour government.

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Mother's appeal begins as village unites in support of 'Brockenhurst Two'

Children of jailed pair told they are on holiday

By BILL FROST

THE three boys separated from their parents after a judge jailed the couple for lying over a minor motoring offence have been told by relatives that their mother and father are on holiday.

Lawyers representing Patricia Whitehead, who is in Holloway jail after being imprisoned for perverting the course of justice, will today begin an appeal against sentence in the hope of reuniting her with her three young sons.

To the anger and surprise of penal reform groups, Mrs Whitehead, 34, was imprisoned for two months after she admitted lying to police about the accident. Her husband David, 47, was sentenced to four months having also admitted perverting the course of justice.

Mr Whitehead's parents, Archie, 75, and Lavinia, 74, are looking after the couple's sons — Ian, 9, Christian, 7, and Alexander, 5, at Shanklin, Isle of Wight.

Lavinia Whitehead said yesterday that her "weeping" son had telephoned her from Winchester Prison after the sentence and said: "Don't worry about me. Just make sure that Patti and our lovely boys are all right." She said that her grandchildren did not know that their parents were in jail. "They are innocent little children and that's the way we want to keep it," she said.



Kennedy: sentence criticised

Mrs Whitehead said her son and daughter-in-law were "bearing up" and being well treated. "They are upset at what has happened, but they are happy so many people are working hard for them."

An action aimed at winning freedom for Mr Whitehead, currently in Winchester jail, is thought to be imminent.

Mrs Whitehead falsely claimed she was behind the wheel when the family car was in collision with a motorcycle. Winchester Crown Court was told last Friday. In fact, her husband was driving.

The computer programmer feared he faced a driving ban under the totting-up procedure and asked his wife and father to say that she had been behind the wheel. However, a week after making the false claim, they confessed the truth to police investigating the minor accident.

The couple, from Brockenhurst, Hampshire, who had no previous convictions, were both in tears as they were jailed by Mr Justice Kennedy at Winchester Crown Court last Friday. The judge had earlier heard how there would be no one to look after the Whiteheads' children if they were sent to prison.

Lavinia Whitehead said: "David and Patti are outstanding members of their community. They had never been in a court before and were terrified about even appearing."

"They knew they had done wrong and would be punished, but they were anticipating a fine or community service."

Mrs Whitehead said her American-born daughter-in-law had been "very subdued and unhappy" when she telephoned from Holloway. "She was just devastated — her boys are her world and she has been torn away from them for something so stupid."

"She kept asking about the children. I don't think she can comprehend what she is doing in a prison."

"We have told the boys that they are just having a week-end away with their grandpar-

ents and that their mother and father are on holiday. If they knew where their mummy and daddy were it would break their hearts."

Prayers were said yesterday for the Whiteheads at their parish church, St Saviour's in Brockenhurst, where Mr Whitehead is a Sunday School teacher. The Rev David Brewster said: "The whole village has come together over this. They have almost become the Brockenhurst Two. I do not condone what they did, but the sentence was out of all proportion to the offence. Everybody in Brockenhurst is stunned."

Peter Way, headmaster of Brockenhurst Primary School, said: "I cannot believe that something like this has happened to a family like the Whiteheads. It seems extraordinary that children can be deprived of their home, school, friends and parents."

Sir Ivan Lawrence, QC, chairman of the Commons Home Affairs Select Committee, told BBC Radio 4's *The World this Weekend* that any attempt to pervert the course of justice was an extremely serious offence. "It's a matter of policy that, particularly in an age in which people no longer believe in divine retribution, if you tell a lie the pure stream of justice should remain unswayed. Therefore there has to be a sanction and the sanction has to be prison."



Mrs Whitehead, centre, and her husband, left, with friends from Brockenhurst

Woman injured by stray bullet

By A STAFF REPORTER

ONE of three people wounded in a fresh outbreak of shootings in Merseyside was a woman hit by a stray bullet as she looked for a taxi, police said yesterday. She and a 25-year-old man were both wounded when six shots were fired in the centre of Liverpool at 3.25am.

They were not together and it seems unlikely that the 21-year-old woman was the gunman's target. A police spokesman said that the woman, who was thought to have been shot in the head, was looking for a taxi after a night out with friends. Her present condition was not known.

The man was hit by five bullets and has wounds to his arms, legs and stomach. He underwent surgery yesterday. The spokesman said that the identities of both victims were not being released and the hospitals where they were taken were not being named.

The double shooting came seven hours after Paul Forster, 22, from Liverpool, was shot in Ryedale Close in the city's Toxteth area in an incident not thought to be connected. He was understood to have a stomach wound from a single shotgun blast. His condition was serious but stable.

Police said that the shooting of Mr Forster was not thought to be linked to last month's murder of David Ungr, which was followed by a series of further violent incidents.

Postcode places street at top of the crime list

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

A STREET five miles from the centre of Birmingham has won the dubious accolade of being declared the most crime-ridden in Britain. Cuthbert Road, a row of 25 modern semi-detached houses in 'Winson' Green, was singled out by a grading system devised by the insurance company Prospero Direct.

A street in Aberdeen was said to be the most crime-free, a title likely to lead to insurance premiums as much as £1,000 less for its residents than those living at the other end of the scale.

Prospero has instituted a system that estimates the risk of household burglary and damage by using the first six digits of postcodes. Previous surveys have used only the first four and have been unable to go into detail as fine as street-by-street analysis.

Using the new system, which is being studied by other insurance companies, Prospero would quote a premium of £1,025 for Cuthbert Street dwellers, and around £48 for residents of Newburgh Road, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen.

Using four postcode digits, the cost to Cuthbertians would be between £220 and £500. Yesterday, they said they were not surprised at their new title.

Standing in front of his house, which is festooned with burglar alarms and bolts, one owner who declined to be named, said: "Youngsters are always tearing up and down in cars and the police are

always down here. Last night they drove a car straight into the telegraph pole opposite my house."

Lily Watkins, a 69-year-old widow who is disabled and uses a wheelchair, has lived in the road for 16 years but is waiting to move. "I'm not surprised to hear it's the worst street in Britain. It's terrifying to lie awake and listen to the music, shouting and cars screaming up and down. I was robbed about 14 years ago while I was upstairs in bed."

Another resident said that she had been burgled three times in as many years.

Detective Inspector David Collins of West Midlands Police said he could not comment on a specific street but was not surprised at the area. "It is an inner-city area and as such crime rates are high, but there are lots of areas similar to it around Birmingham. It would seem that in terms of crimes reported the street would have a high rating."

On Newburgh Road, part of a pleasant Aberdeen estate of white two-story detached houses, residents expressed surprise that their street had been pinpointed as the safest.

Jane Rodger, 44, a mother of two, said that all the residents looked out for each other. "There is quite a community spirit about the place and if anybody saw anything suspicious they would remark on it and do something about it. Friends watch other people's houses when they go away on holiday and that sort of thing."

Canvasser prevents woman's suicide

By HELEN JOHNSTONE

A TELEPHONE canvasser saved the life of a woman who was trying to commit suicide when she rang Louise Price kept the woman talking for 20 minutes while a colleague called an ambulance.

Mrs Price had phoned to ask if the household bought the local evening paper. The woman said that she did not and was in fact trying to kill herself. The woman, from Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, told Mrs Price she had already taken a mixture of pills and alcohol.

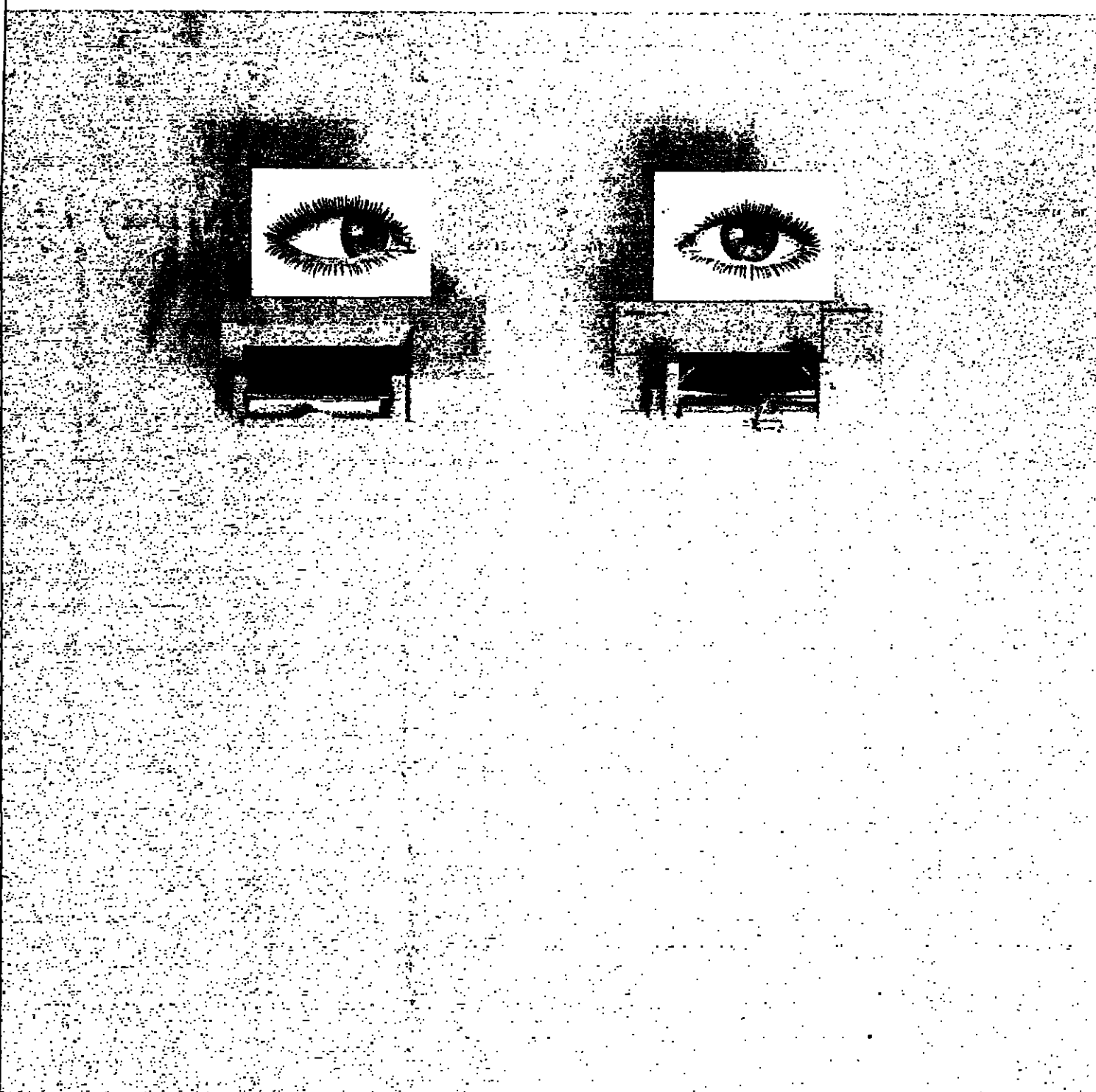
Mrs Price kept her talking as she passed her name and address to her supervisor, who called an ambulance. Mrs Price, who works for the *Coventry Evening Telegraph*, kept the woman for a further 20 minutes until the ambulance arrived.

Mrs Price said: "My first thought was 'Why me?' Then I just rambled on to keep her talking. She told me that she had taken tablets and was also drinking and started talking about her problems."

"She could barely talk for crying and I was terrified of saying the wrong thing. Twenty minutes is a long time but she was doing more talking than me. I just listened."

"Then suddenly I heard her talking to an ambulance man. She came back to the phone and said: 'I've got to go.' The woman was released from hospital after treatment."

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Kasparov savours revenge over 'greedy' computer

By RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

GARRY KASPAROV, the world chess champion and highest-rated player of all time, has gained his revenge over a chess computer that beat him last year. Kasparov said afterwards that he had "restored the honour of the human race".

The Pentium Genius program, devised by the Bourne-mouth-based British computer expert Richard Lang, defeated Kasparov in a tournament in London in August 1994. Since Kasparov's humiliation, Mr Lang has sought to cement his success by upgrading his program to calculate faster and more efficiently. It can now analyse six million different positions per minute.

On Saturday Kasparov faced two games in Cologne before a live television audience of millions. He had been uncharacteristically nervous in the run-up to the contest: in a tournament in Amsterdam last week, he had unusually



Kasparov: nerves

lost games to two younger players, Joel Lautier of France and Jeroen Piket of The Netherlands, who normally would be considered well below his class. He failed to win first prize and recorded his worst tournament performance since becoming world champion in 1985.

Casting caution to the wind, Kasparov abandoned the safe-

ty-first strategy which would be conventional against a relentless program designed to eradicate all tactical errors. He sacrificed pawn after pawn to blast a direct path towards the computer's king.

Eventually the Pentium Genius wilted under the human onslaught. The computer became so paralysed that it had to counter-sacrifice most of its main pieces — queen, rook and bishop — to gain a modicum of breathing space. Then on move 39 it finally capitulated. What let the machine down was its overwhelming greed. By snatching so many pawns, its own defences had been left open.

Having established a 1-0 lead, Kasparov played with extreme caution to draw the second game in 52 moves. The score of 1½ points to ½ exactly reversed the result of last year. Kasparov said later: "The day when computers will regularly beat human champions is still a long way off."

Chess, page 34

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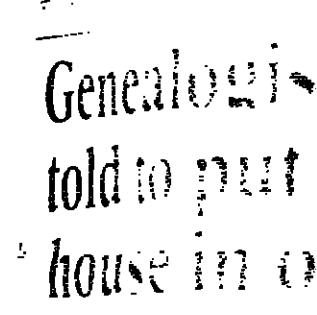
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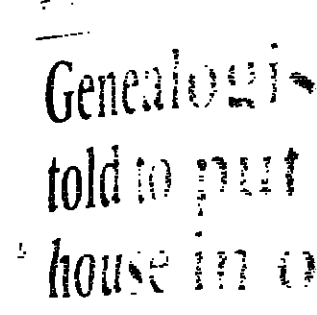
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Chelsea Flower Show

Garden ornaments provide thieves with easy pickings

BY JOHN YOUNG
AND GEORGE PLUMPTRE

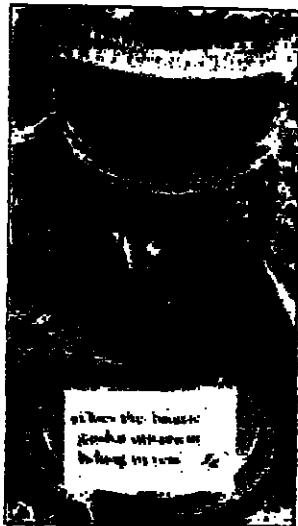
A BRONZE statue of three cherubs supporting a flower bowl at the Chelsea Flower Show is a reminder of the growing incidence of garden theft. The 3ft statue, valued at £10,000, was recovered by police in a raid in southeast London earlier this month.

When the show opens tomorrow it will be on display on the Metropolitan Police stand, where it is secured by an alarm against further predators, with a notice inviting the rightful owner to reclaim it. Other owners of garden statues are advised to concrete them into the ground and protect them with alarm systems or closed-circuit television.

An array of helpful hints includes securing lawnmowers by using "anchors" embedded in the ground, bolting window boxes to the wall and setting large flower pots in concrete. The use of trellis at the top of a fence will make it difficult to climb, and the addition of a thorny climbing rose may persuade garden thieves to go elsewhere.

PC Peter Waine, a crime prevention officer at Harrow, northwest London, said yesterday that garden robbers would stop at nothing: even lawns were rolled up and stolen wholesale.

PC Waine first approached the Royal Horticultural Society about a police stand five years ago, when he was based in Chelsea. At that time a survey showed that about one in 20 domestic gardens had been burgled within the previ-



The stolen cherubs

ous two years; the figure has since risen to one in seven.

"I suppose it was born out of frustration," he said. "Chelsea police had been patrolling the show for years and I thought it was time we had our own stand. I am very pleased with the response we have had."

Would-be burglars might show a more than passing interest in a pair of lightweight flexible gardening boots from Japan, on display at the Honda Tea Garden. The boot is said to be far more comfortable than the conventional Wellington and to give an excellent grip when climbing trees or walls.

The garden is being used to promote the charity Action Research, which funds preventive medicine and has played a leading part in the development of ultrasound scans in pregnancy, vaccines

against polio and German measles and the design and fitting of artificial hips.

Eoin Redahan, of Action Research, said the idea of a Japanese garden was to reduce stress and thereby help to prevent illness. There was a natural link between a peaceful garden and good health.

Julian Dowle has been helped with the garden by the Japanese designer Koji Ninomiya. The combination of carefully positioned rocks and gravel, foliage plants and water, as well as the elegant tea house and bonsai specimens, is immensely skilful.

The garden also illustrates how Japanese gardens have always been places of ceremony and symbolism, as well as natural beauty, a theme that could be well adapted to make our own gardens places of peace.

War, as well as peace, is recalled in the re-creation of a wartime "dig for victory" garden by the Imperial War Museum to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Complete with Anderson shelter, the garden has been used to grow the vegetables recommended at the time to safeguard the nation's health.

Another notable anniversary will be commemorated at the show, held in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, its home since 1913. To mark its hundredth birthday, the National Trust is launching a new rose, named after its founder, Dame Octavia Hill.

Admission by ticket only. Telephone 0171-396 4696.

Alan Toogood, page 20

Genealogists are told to put their house in order

BY EDWARD GORMAN

A LEADING genealogist has called on the profession to bring in tough rules to protect the public from unscrupulous operators and amateurs.

Every year thousands of people try to trace their family trees through genealogists but few realise that most have no formal qualifications, are not answerable to a national governing body and can charge what they like. Cecil Humphrey-Smith, principal of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, in Canterbury, said: "There are so many people being taken for a ride, whether deliberately or otherwise, that the time has come to protect the public."

"There has been a degree of dishonesty over the years which needs to be controlled. The profession would have greater integrity if the public knew it was answerable to a governing body." He cites dishonest practitioners who charge exorbitant fees, sell the same research twice while passing both off as original, or mislead clients as to the amount of searching required to track down information available in the local library.

There are about 20 full-time professional genealogists in the country, with a further 1,000 who charge for occasional work. Another 15,000 take

an amateur interest. Genealogists charge between £100 and £600 to trace a family tree — still the most common request.

However, they may charge much more for the growing range more technical work they do, for example sorting out claims to titles, settling wills or helping with medical research into families with a history of disease. Mr Humphrey-Smith says that makes it all the more important that genealogists are governed by a proper professional body.

His comments have not been well received by the Association of Genealogists and Record Agents, set up as an informal group of well-intentioned genealogists in 1968. It has more than 100 members and its own code of practice and entry qualifications.

Beryl Crawley, chairman of the association, argues that it has gradually improved its standards and denies that it is not up to the job of adequately representing the profession. "There is always room for improvement and we are developing, but it takes time," she said. She conceded, however, that the lack of a defining qualification standard would have to be addressed sooner or later.

Taylor to support reform of sentencing

BY FRANCES GIBB

THE Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gossforth, is to press for an end to secrecy over the fixing of the length of a mandatory life sentence for murder. He is expected to back an amendment to the Criminal Appeals Bill, during its forthcoming committee stage in the Lords, ending the system, opposed by judges, under which they secretly say how long a murderer should serve.

Judges fill out a confidential form recommending the minimum period they think a murderer should serve to fulfil the requirements of retribution and deterrence. The trial judge passes these recommendations to the Lord Chief Justice, who in turn makes his own, and passes them in confidence to the Home Secretary. Although prisoners are told of the recommendation, the Court of Appeal has held that they have no right of appeal against the trial judge's recommendation because it is not an order of the court and is not defined as a sentence.

Lord Taylor is understood to favour a change so that judges would hear argument in open court and then state their recommendation publicly. Prisoners would have a right of appeal. The Home Secretary would retain the right to fix the final sentence.

Warm welcome and protests await Prince on Dublin visit

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE British Embassy in Dublin has been inundated with requests to meet the Prince of Wales next week when he becomes the most senior member of the Royal Family to visit the Republic since partition in 1921. One woman member of the Irish Parliament has even asked if she can dance with him.

As Ireland prepares for a trip that would have been unthinkable before the IRA ceasefire, politicians from across the political spectrum are hailing the visit as an example of growing warmth in Anglo-Irish relations.

However, the scars of Northern Ireland's Troubles will be highlighted during the trip by a hardened core of republicans who will mount a demonstration to coincide with the Prince's arrival in Dublin. The protesters are running an "anti-Para

Prince" campaign: he is Colonel-in-Chief of the Parachute Regiment which shot dead 13 people in Londonderry on Bloody Sunday in January 1972.

Details of the Prince's visit, which will fulfil one of his cherished ambitions, have not been disclosed for security reasons. However, it is understood that John Bruton, the Taoiseach, will host a banquet in his honour in Dublin. He will also meet President Robinson and carry out a number of engagements in Dublin.

One Irish official said: "This visit is highly perceptive and is loaded with symbolism. It would not have been possible a year ago for security and political reasons."

The widespread welcome in the Republic for the trip is underlined by the warm reception from Fianna Fail,

which is the strongest republican party in the Irish Parliament. Eamon O Cuin, a Fianna Fail deputy for Galway West and the grandson of Eamon de Valera, told the BBC: "The hope always was that an independent Ireland could be good friends with its nearest neighbour, Britain. I would think that it is a good thing that we have reached the stage that a member of the British Royal Family can visit here and be well received."

Sinn Féin and other republicans have launched a group, known as Dublin Against the Royal Tour, to make sure that memories of the Troubles are never far away during the visit. Des Bonass, a trade union official, said: "This is not an anti-British campaign. It's against what Prince Charles represents."



Thumper 18, with one of his offspring, at the Abbotsbury Swannery, Dorset

Anglers troubled by increasing swan population

BY MICHAEL HORNSEY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

AN UPSURGE in the swan population on the rivers of lowland Britain is delighting ornithologists but causing problems for fishermen and farmers.

There are thought to be about 27,000 swans, the highest number for many decades. Until quite recently they were in serious decline in many parts of central and southern England.

The turnaround can be dated to the banning in 1987 of the lead pellets used by coarse anglers to weight their baits. Swans were being poisoned by pellets that they picked up from riverbeds along with the grit they need to help their digestion.

Though the swans' recovery is generally a cause for celebration, anglers say that in favoured habitats such as trout streams where lead weights were never much used and swan numbers did not decline, the birds are stripping rivers of weed essential for the survival of fish. Farmers complain that the birds are feeding on spring pasture, fouling winter grazing with their droppings and trampling crops.

Earlier this month, three commercial trout fisheries on the River Wythe in Wiltshire, one of England's finest chalk streams, applied to the Ministry of Agriculture for licences to shoot swans, the first time such a request has been made.

There is no chance that the

ministry will allow swans to be shot, not least because of the public outcry that would ensue. But other control measures less likely to attract attention, such as the removal of eggs from the birds' nests, are being discussed.

Graham Lightfoot, regional fisheries and conservation officer for the National Rivers Authority at Blandford, Dorset, says studies on the

Wythe have shown that at the height of the summer swans can eat up to 90 per cent of water crowfoot and other aquatic weeds. "The weeds provide cover for trout and a habitat for the insects on which the fish feed," he said.

"They also keep the water level high. If the level drops, the trout tend to keep together in the middle of the stream where the water is deepest, which makes for less good fishing."

For farmers the main problem is keeping the web-footed intruders off high-quality grass, especially in the spring when river weed growth is still low, according to David Stone, an agricultural scientist who has monitored swans on the Hampshire Avon for nearly 20 years.

"In March and April they spend a lot of time grazing on river banks," he said. "The birds are not daft. They head unerringly for the best improved grazing — the grass that has been expensively fertilised by the farmer to provide an early silage cut."



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ON MAY 2ND THIS YEAR, Norway began commercially killing minke whales. This was despite its own admission that the scientific "evidence" it uses to justify the slaughter, is wrong.

Next week the International Whaling Commission is meeting in Dublin and the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCS), is determined to expose the Norwegian whalers for the fraudsters they are.

Can we count on your help to stop the Norwegian whalers getting away with murder? Murder of whales that may swim in UK waters too?

WHY NORWAY IS WRONG TO KILL WHALES

Norway has always had what it sees as "the perfect excuse" for continuing whaling. Scientific "evidence".

But now WDCS can reveal that this evidence is a sham.

We have a copy of a leaked letter, in which the Norwegians openly admit that their estimate of 86,700 minke whales in north east Atlantic waters is hopelessly wrong. The excuse this time? Computer "error".

The true figure is more likely to be in the region of 53,000 minke whales - a difference of over 33,000 animals.

So why is Norway still whaling?

In a cynical move to get its quota of 301 minke whales in before it could be criticised by the International Whaling Commission, Norway brought its hunt forward a month, despite the fact that many whales would be in calf.

Indeed, pregnant females are likely to be the main targets as they yield more meat and are easier to catch because they are slower.

The Norwegian Government has since lowered the quota from 301 to 232 whales. However, in open defiance of their Government and of world opinion, the Norwegian whalers have rejected the new quota, declaring their intention to slaughter 301 whales.

Officials in Norway are now desperately trying to justify the present kill by quoting their own scientists as saying their botch up (the one their whalers are conveniently trying to ignore) only entails "small errors on the data programme".

But the agonising deaths of 301 minke whales can hardly be described as "small".

WE'RE DETERMINED TO STOP THESE MURDERERS, BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP

Here are some other Norwegian "facts" which might help to convince you.

Norway has always claimed a "traditional" right to hunt minke whales. But minke whaling on a commercial scale in north west Norway only began in the early 1930s - and even then that was in the face of years of opposition from their own fishermen.

Norway states its whaling is for domestic use only. So how do they explain that their own customs officials failed to notice 3.5 metric tonnes of whale meat labelled "Norwegian Prawns" being shipped out of Fornebu airport to the "Far East" in October 1993?

Norway decided to resume commercial whaling in 1993 for "scientific and fisheries management purposes". We believe the real reason, leaked to the Norwegian Telegram Agency by an official in the Prime Minister's office, was that it was a vote winner for the Government.

It seems rather too convenient that the Norwegian Government made the decision to resume whaling just one week after an opinion poll showed substantial support for another political party in an area of the country where whaling takes place.

Despite the latest revelations about their mistakes, Norway is still insisting it can be trusted to monitor its own whaling industry. They can't even contain their own whalers, who are out whaling right now in defiance of the Norwegian Government. How can we expect them to control any other aspect of their bloody trade, let alone ensure that it is being run correctly and within the law?

For a long time now, WDCS, amongst others, has been calling for Norway's whaling activities to be closely monitored by international inspectors. So far, Norway has resisted all attempts for their sick trade to be opened up to such scrutiny. Hardly surprising when you consider what they've been getting away with!

LIES, LIES, AND YET MORE LIES

Norway has already proved that it is no respecter of international regulations on whaling. It simply makes up its own as it goes along. But then this is not surprising when it can't even be fined for the atrocities it is committing against minke whales right now. The Norwegian whalers can never be trusted again.

WILL YOU HELP US MAKE SURE THEY'RE NOT?

Murder of the innocent: a whale foetus is held up for display before being tossed onto a pile of its mother's entrails

ADVERTISEMENT

Get your bloody

hands off our whales, Norway!

Minke whales swim in British waters too. Shouldn't the people of Britain then, also have a say in their future?

LET US SPEAK UP FOR THE WHALES

There's no time to lose! The serious talking at the International Whaling Commission meeting begins on the 29th May in Dublin and only lasts for one week which is why we need your support NOW. The Norwegians have already made it abundantly clear on many occasions that they intend to start whaling on a massive scale again.

That could mean as many as 2,000 whales being killed each year by Norway alone.

How long do you think it would take for other whaling nations like Japan to follow suit?

PLEASE SEND US AN IMMEDIATE, URGENT DONATION TODAY

We'll use your gift to campaign for a better deal for all whales and dolphins. At the IWC meeting we will confront the Norwegians and demand the following concessions from them for the sake of every whale still left alive.

1. Norway must immediately stop slaughtering minke whales in the north east Atlantic.
2. Norway must fully admit in public that they got their figures wrong and should not be hunting minke whales right now.

3. Norway should be subject to an unlimited moratorium on all scientific and commercial whaling. (Ten years has been suggested - we demand a total and final ban for ever!)

LET US KNOW YOU SUPPORT US

If you agree with all of the above, then we need to hear from you by Wednesday 31st May if we're to stop the Norwegians in their tracks.

The IWC won't meet for another year. How many whales do you think Norway will get away with killing in that time? This is our only chance. Don't let us miss it!



We are legally required to protect this whale's identity. We only wish the laws on protecting whales were just as stringent.

SEND £25 AND RECEIVE A SPECIAL WDCS REPORT

If you can send £25 today we will send you a special, in-depth report of the case we will be putting to the IWC, as a thank you. Packed with facts and figures, you'll find the behind-the-scenes story of our campaign to save the minke whale from slaughter, a riveting read.

GIVE US A HAND

There's another way you can help us too. You can sign and return the "hand" on the coupon below and we'll use it to give the Norwegian whalers a message from the British public they can't ignore.

To get their hands off our whales once and for all!

DON'T LET NORWAY GET AWAY WITH MURDER!

PLEASE support WDCS with a gift for as much as you can spare today! Complete and return the coupon below immediately to:

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Thank you!

Don't let Norway get away with murder!

PLEASE REPLY BY MAY 31ST 1995

I'm with you! I won't stand by and let Norway do this to our whales.

Name: _____
(Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms/Ms)
Address: _____

Postcode: _____
Telephone: _____

I enclose a cheque/postal order (payable to WDCS) for: _____

£ _____ Please write in the amount of your gift here.

Thank you!
We want to leave it up to you to decide how much to give, but you may find the following suggestions helpful. [Please tick the box of your choice]

☐ £10 ☐ £15 ☐ £25

Give this amount and receive a full report on the case we put to the IWC

I prefer to give by Access ☐ Visa ☐
Mastercard ☐ CAF CharityCard ☐

Card No: _____

Expiry Date: ____/____/____

Signature: _____

Use your credit card to make an instant donation, call 01225 334511 NOW.

Please return this completed coupon, together with your signed protest and gift, in an envelope to: WDCS, FREEPOST, (SN863), BATH, BA1 2XE. No stamp needed.

Please note that any cash sent over and above the budget by the particular appeal will be used to support the work of WDCS in areas where we feel whales and dolphins are most at risk. We can also use your cash to help. The more people who give, the more we can do. If you are unable to give, please tick the box and we will forward your donation.

Please sign your name where shown and we will put up your hand of protest to prove to the Norwegian whalers that killing whales when they know they shouldn't, was the worst mistake they ever made - and one the British public are not about to let them repeat.

HANDS OFF OUR WHALES, NORWAY!

SIGNED: _____

WHALE & DOLPHIN CONSERVATION SOCIETY

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SUPPORT OUR CAMPAIGN TO EXPOSE NORWAY

The Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCS) is the world's largest charity devoted solely to fighting for the protection of whales and dolphins. Set up in 1987, we expose and confront those responsible for the needless slaughter and suffering of these precious and beautiful animals.

We do this by:

● Actively and vigorously campaigning for an end to all commercial and scientific whaling.

Just last year, we helped convince the IWC to agree to the adoption of the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary, dealing a mortal blow to the Japanese whaling industry.

● Remaining totally opposed to the capture of whales and dolphins for display in marine parks and working tirelessly to bring an end to it.

WDCS is currently helping to fund the release of captive dolphins in Florida. Now we're set to help release the first ever orca - Kelko - star of the film Free Willy, back into his native waters.

● Engaging public support for our campaigns to stop the deliberate killing of cetaceans, including pilot whales in the Faroes and dolphins caught in tuna nets. The boycott we helped set up against Faroes fish, has so far cost that industry £12m in lost or unplaced orders.

● Funding over 35 projects worldwide to aid whales and dolphins at risk.

In 1994 alone, Canada's Harbour Porpoise Rescue Team - just one example of a successful project supported by WDCS, saved 41 porpoises and one minke whale, from agonising deaths in netting traps.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Looking at our many activities and achievements, you may think we have a lot of money. But unlike the whaling nations, we are not rich and we are not armed. But we do have one powerful weapon - more powerful even than the electric lances, exploding harpoons and flensing knives the whalers use to decimate whales.

WE HAVE PUBLIC OPINION ON OUR SIDE.

People in this country don't want the blood of whales on their conscience. Why should we stand by and let a small minority of people flout international regulations and continue to kill whales which don't even belong to them?

Time to end myth of 'the faultless premiership'

I was never likely that Margaret Thatcher would settle down into the armchair of elder statesmanship. Baldwin assured his successor, Chamberlain, that he would neither spit on the deck nor interrupt the man on the bridge. But Lady Thatcher has little in common with Lord Baldwin. She owed much of her success as Prime Minister to political schizophrenia.

Throughout her years at No 10, she was one of her own Government's fiercest critics. By temperament more suited to opposition than to government, for 11½ years she managed to combine the roles. So it was inevitable that after losing her principal office, and thus deprived of an outlet for those restless, relentless energies, she should devote herself to the opposition role.

In yesterday's *Sunday Times* she says that she was determined not to behave like Ted Heath. This

was wise. Sir Edward has one achievement to show for 20 years' self-indulgence in bile, spite and childishness: the ever-increasing damage to his own reputation. But Lady Thatcher should beware Sir Edward's failures go deeper than incompetence in public relations. It is not just the inability to come to terms with losing office that has undermined him; it is his failure to admit mistakes and, to participate in an honest debate about his term in office. She is now displaying similar weaknesses.

Take Europe. Lady Thatcher tells us that "The problem with John Major's... approach was that although it initially won plaudits, it left the fundamental problems unresolved." From whom had he inherited these unresolved fundamental problems? From Margaret Thatcher. Throughout her 11½ years she never resolved the contradictions in her European policy: on the

Bruce Anderson, author of a biography of John Major, assesses the latest attack by Margaret Thatcher on her successor's policies and urges her to admit making the occasional mistake

one hand, fierce anti-federalist rhetoric, and frequent use of the handbag; on the other, regular, substantial concessions on substance.

It was she who signed the Single European Act — a far greater constitutional concession than Maastricht — and she who agreed the deal that consolidated the common agricultural policy. Charles Powell, her former foreign policy adviser, believes that she too would have agreed to a deal akin to Maastricht, had she been as successful in the negotiations as Mr Major was.

If the problems of Britain's

relationship with Europe had been simple, Margaret Thatcher would have solved them well within 11½ years. They were not, and so Mr Major had to persevere where she had failed. By 1990 her approach had exhausted itself, so the new Prime Minister was right to revert to the more orthodox formula.

Certainly, this has involved concessions: so would any European policy compatible with continued British membership of the Community. Mrs Thatcher was prepared to pay a heavy price for the single market. At Maastricht, Mr Major paid a smaller price for

enlargement. This was not a new departure. It was in a straight line of continuity with government policy since 1979, and Lady Thatcher's unwillingness to acknowledge this is unworthy of her.

But the greatest difficulty arises over inflation. If Margaret Thatcher stood for anything, it was counter-inflation, and it was her failure to deliver this most crucial objective that terminated her premiership. When John Major took over, the inflation rate was in double figures and rising. Four and a half years later it is more substantially under control than it has been for a generation. That is one respect in which his record is not just equal to hers, but far superior.

It is also something that Lady Thatcher and her supporters are unwilling to admit. They try to divert attention by a populist attack on the exchange-rate mech-

anism. This is doubly irrelevant. First, throughout the Thatcher premiership, Britain was committed to membership of the ERM. It mattered not that Mrs Thatcher expressed private reservations. She was never able to articulate a clear alternative strategy.

Second, by 1990, inside or outside the ERM, Britain would have had to take the most unpleasant interest-rate medicine: there was no other way to reduce inflation. John Major could have dealt with the Thatcher/Lawson inflation only by a tough interest-rate regime.

As for that regrettable lapse on inflation, Lady Thatcher and her acolytes have still not worked out her defence. If she was omnipotent and omniscient, as they sometimes claim, how could it have occurred?

If on the other hand it was all the fault of her ministers and officials, how is this to be recon-

ciled with the myth of the faultless premiership? Margaret Thatcher was a great Prime Minister but she was not infallible. There were errors of omission and commission, some of them serious. She did not get to grips with Europe, any more than she did with social policy, welfare, the size of the State, or Ireland. But she also left inflation in a mess.

On the other side of the balance sheet, she did break the trade unions and transformed the public debate about taxation. She also at least halted the growth of the State and, above all, she restored national pride. Those are splendid achievements but it would be easier to see them as such if she herself did not exaggerate their scope: if she were, indeed, prepared to admit the occasional mistake.

□ *The Path to Power* (HarperCollins: 600 pages) is published on June 12

TIM BISHOP

Autobiography sets radical European agenda

Thatcher urges Britain to veto political union

By ALICE THOMSON
POLITICAL REPORTER

LADY THATCHER'S second volume of her autobiography, *The Path To Power*, delivers a savage indictment of large areas of foreign and domestic policy. She uses the final chapter, "Beginning Again", to demand a radical agenda for Britain.

She calls for a fight to regain power for Westminster over European governing bodies: a rejection of the Maastricht Treaty; an immediate declaration of the independence of the pound; a total break with all moves towards political union; and the use of the veto to force other European Union countries to accept a Community in which Britain maintains an arm's-length trading role.

She openly questions the Government's pledge to put Britain "at the heart of Europe" and says that John Major is following a European line she once derisively ascribed to Labour as "compromise, sweep it under the



Heath: critical of successor

ly high level to other European currencies in the exchange-rate mechanism "straitjacket", which eventually led to the humiliating and damaging withdrawal from the ERM. She says that had only one end in sight: a fully fledged superstate "with its own flag, anthem, army, parliament, government, currency and eventually — one supposes — people".

She gave warning that as the 1996 inter-governmental conference on the future of Europe draws closer, all the problems that bedevilled the Government over Maastricht will arise again and says the Government would be naive to stand by and let federalists exploit the conference. Britain must be prepared to fight its corner by "pursuing every measure of obstruction and disruption open to us".

Britain's best course now, she declares, is to seek a resolute relationship with the Community, along the lines originally mooted by General de Gaulle. That would allow France and Germany to set

up a hardcore European Union without British membership, leaving Britain's trading links with Europe intact. If the other members refused the "big bang" option, Britain should use its veto to block further progress towards integration.

She discusses her depression at losing office in November 1990. "Time was heavy on my hands," she says. "Work had been my elixir. Now I would have to adjust to a different pace. It was difficult to begin with... I felt an inner need to ponder on what I had made of my life and the opportunities I had been given, and on the significance of events."

On the question of her successor, she says that she was never in the business of attempting to undermine John Major. "I knew that his position was still fragile and I wanted him to succeed. I had faced sufficient difficulties with Ted Heath not to wish to inflict similar ones."

She complains about the "missing sense of purpose" in



The future looked rosy in 1992. Now Lady Thatcher complains of a "missing sense of purpose" in John Major

the Major years and says: "I was not prepared for the speed with which the position I adopted would be reversed... The problem with John Major's approach was that although it initially won plaudits, it left the fundamental problems unresolved."

But on the Tory party's continuing problems in the

polls, she says: "It is for others to take the actions required." On foreign policy she deplores the fact that the special relationship with the United States has been "allowed to cool to near freezing point".

She is also sharply critical of the direction of domestic policy, in particular on law and order, and calls for a

return to basic Tory values in family life. She claims that Britain is "moving rapidly in the wrong direction" on law and order issues and calls for a switch from welfare spending to crime prevention and detection. The book says that the rise in single-parent families without fathers has led to an increase in drug traffic.

ing, vandalism and youth gangs.

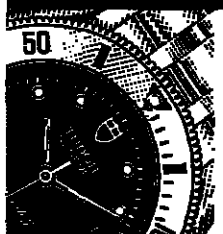
Her solution is to make benefits for single mothers conditional on their living with their parents or in supervised accommodation, and to change tax laws to encourage traditional family structures.

Clarke counter-attack, page 1

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Fairbairn furore adds to Tory by-election woes

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Tories enter the final week of the Perth and Kinross by-election facing a fresh embarrassment over allegations that the late Sir Nicholas Fairbairn, the former MP for the constituency, has a nine-year-old illegitimate son.

Party sources insisted that the reports bore no relevance to the by-election campaign and criticised the press for causing Lady Fairbairn further distress. An official said reports that the former Solicitor-General had had a child by an Australian teacher were a matter for the family rather than the party.

While none of the other parties tried to exploit the story, there was speculation that the report only days before the by-election could be part of a campaign to find a scapegoat if the Tory candidate, John Godfrey, polls badly on Thursday.

John Major sent him a letter of support yesterday in which he accused the SNP of offering Scots "nothing except a bleak future of high taxes and low spending". He wrote: "You are right to highlight the dangers of putting the Union at risk of jeopardising everything that we achieve together as part of the United Kingdom."

Yesterday all the main candidates were preparing for

television debates to be held today and tomorrow. They are seen as a big opportunity to influence the 30 per cent of voters still said to be undecided.

All eyes will also be on tomorrow's poll in *The Herald* newspaper, which is the only comprehensive survey to be carried out during the campaign. Two months ago an opinion poll carried out by the same organisation, System 3, gave the SNP nearly 50 per cent of the vote, with Labour and the Tories almost tied in second place.

The SNP lead has almost certainly dropped since then. Two telephone polls have put Labour ahead of the Tories and Labour's youthful candidate, Douglas Alexander, is confident that Labour could still win. However, it seems unlikely that he will be able to catch Roseanna Cunningham, the SNP candidate.

Veronica Linklater, the Liberal Democrat candidate, is said to be holding on to her party's vote, although it is still expected to come a poor fourth.

□ General Election: Sir N Fairbairn (C) 20,195; Miss R Cunningham (SNP) 18,101; M Rolfe (Lab) 6,267; M Black (Lib Dem) 5,714. Conservative majority 2,094.

Peers plan revolt over deregulation of signs

By JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT proposals to relax the regulation of roadside tourist signs could be blocked in the Lords by Tory owners of stately homes. The peers, led by Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, fear that the plans would produce a proliferation of unsightly signs in the countryside. A consultation paper issued last month has met with protest from conservation groups and road safety organisations, which argue that drivers could be distracted.

In a letter published in *The Times* today Lord Montagu,

president of the Southern Tourist Board, says "the dogma of deregulation is being carried too far".

Lord Montagu, whose vintage motor museum in Hampshire is a popular tourist site, says the environmental damage would become an unpleasant legacy that electors would neither forgive nor forget. He would propose a motion against the plans if they went before the Lords and would expect many Tory peers to back him.

Letters, page 19

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THE TIMES

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TOKEN SEVEN

Arizona rally highlights profound distrust of Washington

Gun lobby pledges war on Clinton's government 'thugs'

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA

A DEFIANT National Rifle Association declared war on the White House at the weekend during an annual convention in this sunbaked desert city that showed just how profoundly many heartland Americans distrust their Government.

With the national spotlight firmly on them, a string of association officials used the occasion to portray their huge organisation as the last bulwark against a repressive Government bent on destroying individual rights and freedoms. They drew roars of approval by vowing to eject President Clinton from office in 1996 just as the association's 3.4 million members helped to overturn 40 years of Democratic rule on Capitol Hill last November.

This month the rifle association has suffered some of the most withering attacks of its 124-year history. Mr Clinton and the mainstream media have seized on its portrayal of federal law enforcement agents as "jackbooted government thugs" in "Nazi bucket helmets and stormtrooper uniforms" to accuse it of fomenting the sort of anti-government hatred that led to last month's Oklahoma City bombing. President Bush even resigned his lifetime membership in disgust.

A national poll has also indicated that support among American gun owners for positions taken by the association has dropped significantly, with 47 per cent expressing overall agreement. The results of the *Time/CNN* poll of 600 gun owners indicated a drop of 20 percentage points from a December 1989 poll, which showed 67 per cent overall support for positions espoused by the group.

The poll also indicated that 49 per cent of America's gun owners favour stricter gun control laws, although 48 per cent would be less likely to vote for a candidate who favours stricter laws. Only 24

per cent of the gun owners interviewed said they thought Congress should repeal the ban on assault weapons that was passed last year, with 69 per cent in favour of keeping the ban in place.

However, leaders of the association, citing the FBI's 1993 assault on the Branch Davidians' compound at Waco, in Texas, and other cases of federal agents apparently running amok, declared at their convention that they would not be cowed by such attacks. They won the overwhelming support of the 24,000 members attending the convention and Wayne LaPierre, the association's executive vice-president, was cheered when he said that if federal agents continued to "act like thugs, then that's what we are going to call them".

Presenting the rifle association as a champion of American rights and freedoms was shrewd political positioning by the leadership, but the rank-and-file members in

Phoenix clearly believed it absolutely. Almost all considered recent gun control measures as the start of a concerted government effort to disarm American citizens as a prelude to destroying their basic liberties.

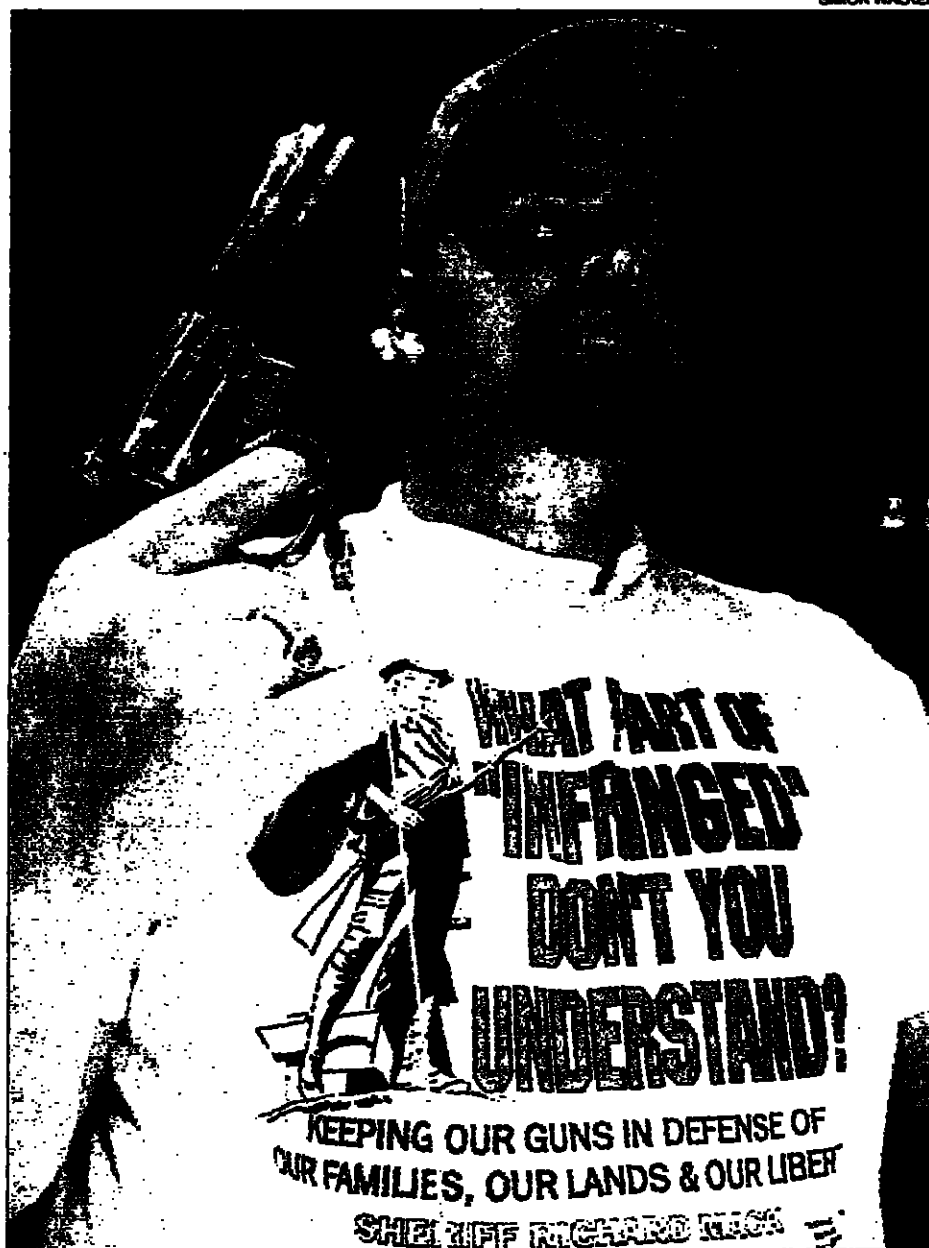
These convention delegates could not be dismissed as members of the lunatic fringe. They were teachers, police officers, mid-level managers, lawyers and small businessmen. They were almost exclusively white, came mostly from the American hinterland and were all convinced that the Government in Washington was a malign and sinister force bent on suppressing, not serving, the people. They drew comparisons with Nazi Germany, called President Clinton a "communist" or wore T-shirts that sported slogans such as: "I Love my Country, but I Fear my Government".

They described the Second Amendment to the constitution, which talks of the right to keep and bear arms, as the most sacred of all. If that was breached, a disarmed citizenry would lack the power to prevent the Government overturning the rest of the constitution.

"It keeps the despots at bay if they know there are 200 million guns out there," Don Bradway, 49, a public transport safety officer from California's Orange County, said.

The depth of these people's suspicion was baffling, but events such as the Waco siege clearly made a much bigger impression on them than anyone realised and "talk radio's" relentless anti-government diatribes have fuelled their paranoia further.

Rifle association leaders prudently distanced themselves from the citizens' militias that have sprung up across America, but the militias nevertheless had considerable grassroots sympathy. Indeed, the rifle association's Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award went to Rich-



A member of the National Rifle Association tries a weapon for size at the guns exhibition, which is staged as part of the annual convention held in Phoenix

6 It keeps the government despots at bay if they know there are 200 million guns out there

ard Mack, an Arizona sheriff who openly supports the militias. "It was never intended that the master feared the servant and that we the people be forced into humble submission through government intimidation," he told the convention.

The event was held in a vast new air-conditioned conference centre. There were signs at the entrances asking delegates to check in their firearms; it is legal to carry guns in Arizona as long as they are displayed openly. Inside, an exhibition of rifles and hunting equipment featuring such legendary names as Winchester, Remington and Colt occupied an area the size of several football pitches, a striking

reminder of the association's long history as primarily an organisation to promote sporting interests. The group is now overtly political and confrontational. Its immediate aims are to win congressional hearings on cases such as the Waco attack and a repeal of last year's ban on assault weap-

ons. "There will be a repeal," Tanya Metaksa, the association's chief lobbyist, said, "and we will give Bill Clinton the chance to veto his presidency away."

In Washington, an FBI report published yesterday said that the American crime rate went down by 3 percentage points last year, the third successive decline. The FBI said that violent crimes reported to the police nationwide fell by 4 percentage points and property crimes dropped by 3 points.

Among violent crimes, robberies showed the biggest decline, dropping by 6 points, followed by murders and rapes at 5 percentage points and assaults at 2 points.

Security fears lead to detour at White House

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

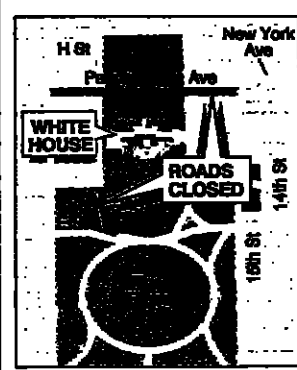
TRAFFIC no longer passes in front of America's most famous address, the White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Reluctantly agreeing to heightened security concerns following the Oklahoma City bombing, President Clinton ordered the closure of a two-block stretch of the avenue in front of the White House to all but pedestrians. He also closed a shorter stretch of road at the back gate for the same reason.

Pennsylvania Avenue has been a symbol of national openness for two centuries. George Washington insisted that the White House be a mansion modest in size and accessible to the people, not the equivalent of a monarch's palace set in a exclusive park. Until now, the avenue has stayed open despite four successful and eight unsuccessful presidential assassination attempts, the civil war, two world wars and the Gulf War.

Mr Clinton compared Saturday's unannounced arrival of concrete barricades to the installation of metal detectors at airports. He said they should be seen as a responsible security step to preserve rather than restrict freedom. When he took office, Mr Clinton promised: "I will not in any way allow the fight against domestic and foreign terrorism to build a wall between me and the American people."

Police were bracing for huge traffic jams during today's rush hour when more than 200,000 workers will fill the centre of Washington.



Chung: upset people of Oklahoma City

CBS fires woman 'anchor' who drew criticism

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

CONNIE CHUNG, only the second woman to co-host the main evening news on a US television network, has been removed from her post at CBS after antagonising Oklahoma residents while reporting the bombing.

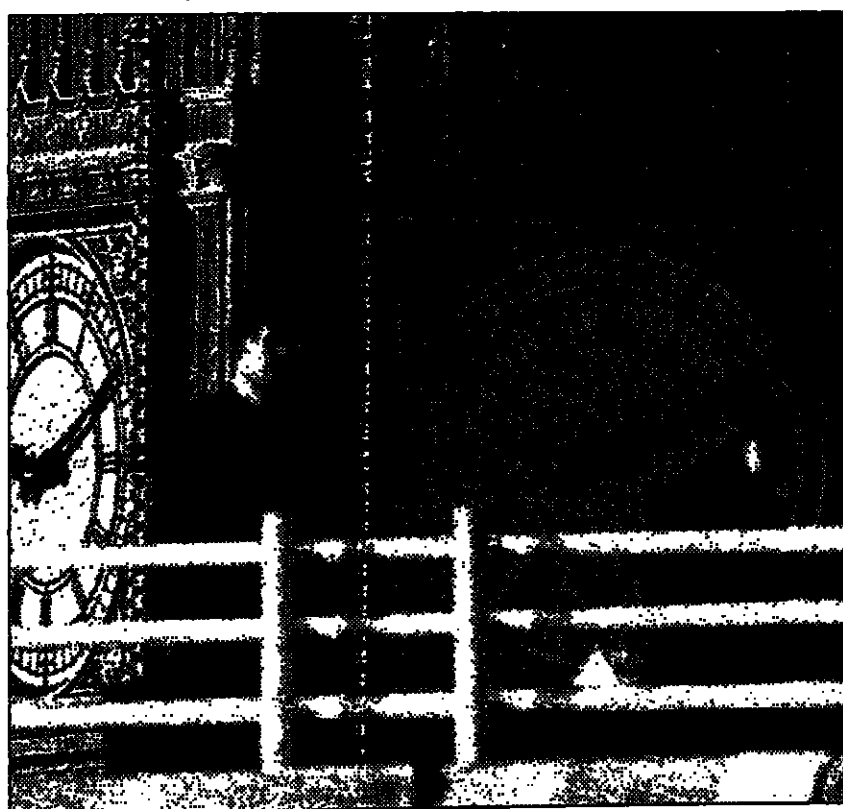
Ms Chung teamed up with Dan Rather, the veteran CBS newscaster, two years ago in an effort to revive ratings at the flagging network.

The two "co-anchors" continually bickered backstage. The latest argument came after the bomb explosion at the federal building in Oklahoma City on April 19. Mr Rather called in from holiday in the adjoining state of Texas, offering to go to the scene. Ms Chung was sent instead. Her condescending interviews with rescue workers outraged local residents and she was forced to apologise.

Now CBS executives have agreed on what had been obvious for many months: Ms Chung had failed to stop CBS evening news sliding further behind its rivals. The network removed her from the news and cancelled her weekly magazine show.

She will be remembered for persuading Newt Gingrich's mother to confide on air that the House Speaker had once called Hillary Clinton a bitch.

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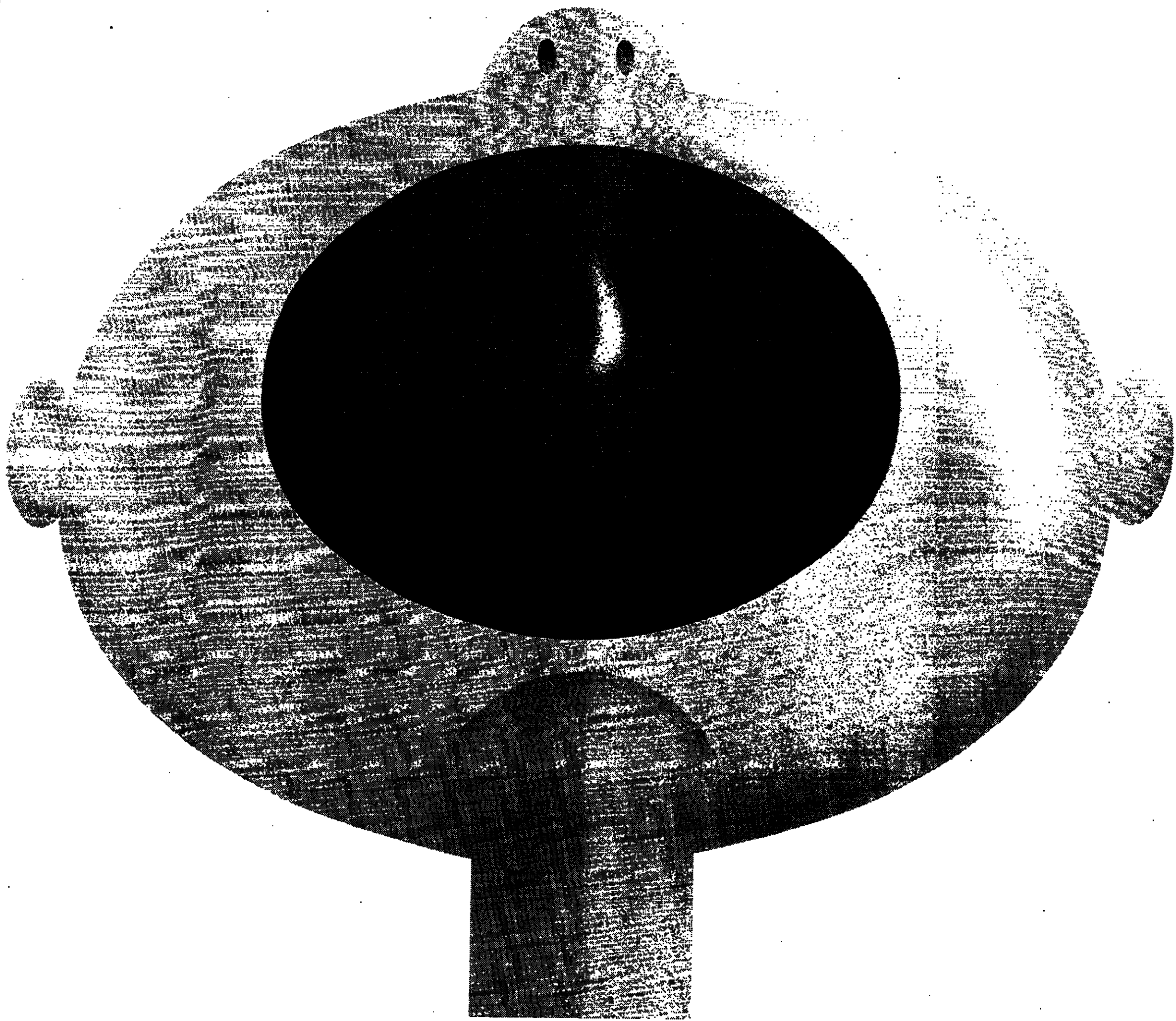
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مكتبة من الأصل

America heads off UN plan to cut Bosnia force

BY JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE United States is flexing its diplomatic muscles to block the United Nations' proposals for deep cuts in the UN force in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the abandonment of the Muslim "safe areas".

William Perry, the US Defence Secretary, travelled to UN headquarters in New York at the weekend after it emerged that the organisation was considering cutting the UN Protection Force (Unprofor) by half and dropping the "safe areas".

Mr Perry told Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, that such a dramatic cutback in the UN mission would prove "disastrous". Although the US has always refused to send ground troops to Bosnia, Washington is insisting that British and other UN troops must continue to protect Muslim civilians in the beleaguered "safe areas", such as Sarajevo and Gorazde.

In London, Ministry of Defence and Foreign Office officials met to discuss the UN proposals to reduce the size of the force in Bosnia. Ministers

are expected to give their opinion later this week and it seems likely that the Government will also reject the proposed cutbacks.

It has always been the MoD's view that if British troops were to stay in Bosnia — there are currently 3,400 deployed — they should be in sufficient numbers to function as a viable force. Cutting back

on Britain's contribution might increase, not decrease, the risks faced by those left behind.

Britain has already announced that the 500 British troops currently based in Gorazde in eastern Bosnia will not be replaced by another British unit when their tour ends in the autumn. The Foreign Office sources said it

was appropriate that there should be a reappraisal of the UN's role in Bosnia, limiting it more to humanitarian and monitoring functions.

Dr Boutros Ghali is due to present proposals on the peacekeepers' future role in Bosnia by the end of the month. UN officials now accept, however, that a drastic reduction in the UN force would be politically unacceptable and would be unlikely to pass in the Security Council, which must approve any change in the nature of the peacekeeping mission.

One Western diplomat described the idea of large troop reductions as a "manoeuvre" by the new French Government to pressure the US into forcing the Bosnian Government to renew the ceasefire that expired at the end of April.

France, the largest contributor of UN peacekeepers in the Balkans, knows that Washington does not want to see Unprofor withdrawn and is desperate to avoid having to send American troops to help extricate UN peacekeepers.



Workmen hang a cloth across a Sarajevo street to obscure it from Serb snipers yesterday. The UN has refused to protect workers erecting anti-sniper barriers.

Units not up to full strength

BY MICHAEL EVANS

THE size of the United Nations force in former Yugoslavia has never reached the level authorised by the Security Council.

The present combined strength of the troops, military observers, civilian police and civilian personnel in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Macedonia is 43,926, compared with an authorised force of 50,433. UN strength in Bosnia has varied from about 20,000 to 24,000.

The biggest concentration of UN troops is in the southwest sector, which is under British command and where there are more than 7,000 soldiers deployed in central and southern Bosnia. This area is largely peaceful at present.

The units include 1,400 Spaniards in Mostar and nearby Medogorje; 650 British troops in Vitez, Gorazde, Vukov and Zepce; another 500 British soldiers in Gorazde; a Turkish battalion of 1,468 in Zenica, a Muslim stronghold, and 800 Canadians in Visoko. In Sarajevo there are more than 5,000 troops from France, Egypt, Russia and Ukraine.

'Safe areas' hold troops to ransom

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN VITEZ

THE Serbs tank shell came crashing through the wall of the British United Nations base in Maglaj, exploding in the dining area, sending shards of glowing shrapnel across the room.

An hour earlier the same room had been filled with soldiers eating their evening meal. Six soldiers were wounded, one of whom nearly lost his leg.

The deliberate targeting of the temporary home of "C" Squadron of the British Cavalry Battalion coincided with the deliberate shooting of three French soldiers in Sarajevo. It is incidents like these that have prompted the UN to consider withdrawing its forces from the Bosnian "safe areas".

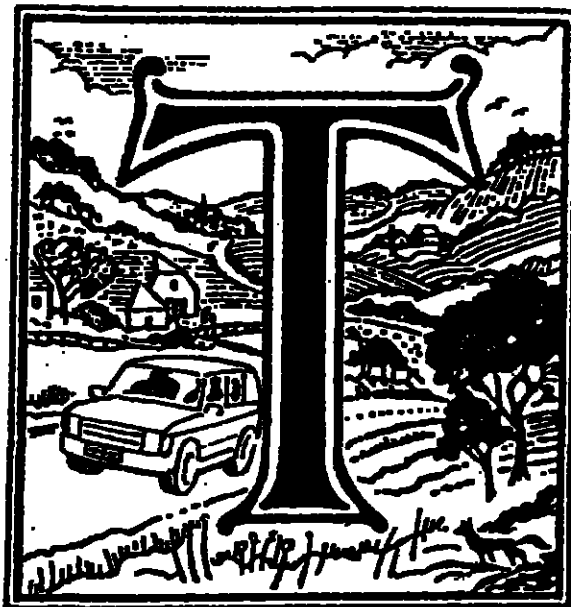
As the Bosnian war enters its fourth year without any sign of a negotiated settlement, UN forces are increasingly being targeted. The events of the past 18 months, particularly the birth of the federation between Bosnians and Croats, have undermined the initial UN mandate: the escorting of humanitarian aid to the beleaguered populace. UN troops now find themselves involved in a complex effort to splice the Bosnian and Croat communities together as part of a single viable state. The Serbs — not surprisingly — oppose such a union. Ironically, it is the "safe areas" where aid is scarcest and where it is hardest for UN forces to operate. Supplying these areas is subject to the whim of the Serbs, to whom control of the enclaves is a bargaining counter with the West to counter their own slipping fortunes.

With the exception of Sarajevo and Bihac, where Bosnian forces under the command of General Atif Dudakovic continue to hold out, the enclaves have been demilitarised, either directly by Serb action or by the UN.

Aware of the consequences of UN withdrawal, with no aid and no guarantee of Nato air cover, the enclaves would undoubtedly take matters into their own hands and force the UN to stay. Roads blocked by crowds of frightened women and children intent on preventing UN movement already have numerous precedents in Bosnia.

"If the UN goes, Srebrenica and Gorazde are finished," a Bosnian infantry officer said. "We are not yet strong enough to fight our way back to them".

If the UN is to stay in the enclaves, new troops will have to be sent to replace those now coming to the end of their tour of duty. There is already a lack of will among contributing nations to supply any further garrisons.



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Belgium's voters dash Far Right dreams of power

FROM MICHAEL DYNES IN BRUSSELS

THE extreme right-wing Vlaams Blok failed to make the electoral breakthrough widely predicted in Belgium's general election yesterday. The Centre-Left Government held its ground, winning a projected 80 of the 150 legislative seats.

The Vlaams Blok won 26.7 per cent of the vote in Antwerp, remaining the biggest party in Belgium's second largest city. Across Flanders, it won 13.1 per cent of the vote, up from 10.3 per cent in the last elections of 1991. It had been thought that popular antipathy towards immigration, unemployment, and rising levels of crime, would lead to a surge in votes for the Far Right. Widespread voter disillusionment with established parties had also been predicted, following a series of revelations that a £1 million bribe was paid to the Flemish Socialist Party by Agusta, the Italian helicopter company, in return for a £1 billion defence contract. But the scandal appears to have led to only a slight reduction in support for the Flemish Socialists. The Christian Democrat vote has held up, increasing the prospects of

a return to power by Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Prime Minister. Confident of significant electoral gains, Philippe Van Der Sande, the Vlaams Blok spokesman, earlier said: "In the last four years there has been one scandal after another, and the people are fed up with this. There has also been a rise in immigrants and crime," he added.

The Vlaams Blok had tried to exploit fears about immigration, crime and unemployment, with campaign posters calling on voters to "settle scores". People in Antwerp



King Albert: voters heeded his appeal

"are confronted with the issue of foreigners and crime," one local inhabitant said, adding: "Almost every day drug syringes have to be picked up around here." Another said: "I'm not a racist, but immigrants get jobs more easily because employers have to pay them less."

Fear of a wholesale shift to the Right in Dutch-speaking Flanders, prompted anxious appeals from prominent Belgians — including King Albert, supported by the media — for the electorate not to cast a protest ballot for the extreme Right. "These parties have no projects, except to arouse hatred and spread confrontation," *La Libre Belgique* newspaper said. That strategy appears to have paid off.

Even with an electoral breakthrough, Vlaams Blok leaders knew that intense hostility from the other parties would have excluded them from any new coalition. "We are a party capable of being in the government but the others will never let us in," Mr Van Der Sande said.

The Vlaams Blok, which advocates a separate Flemish state and stiff curbs on immi-



Homeless people, who are denied a vote in Belgium, demonstrate around Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Prime Minister, after he voted yesterday

gration, won more seats than any other party in the 1991 local elections. But a united front by the other parties kept them in opposition.

Voting was compulsory in the ballot to elect a new federal government and regional assemblies in Flanders, Wallonia and bilingual Brussels in

the first general election since Belgium became a federal state in 1993. More than 30 per cent of the electorate were still undecided how to vote two days before the ballot, making it difficult for pollsters to predict the outcome.

Both the Flemish and French Socialists were braced

for the worst. But there is growing bitterness within Socialist ranks over the high profile inquiry into the Agusta affair, which many party activists feared would deprive them of any credibility with the voters.

While welcoming Friday's decision by the judiciary to

release three party officials implicated in the scandal, Louis Tobback, the chairman of the Flemish Socialist Party, complained at the timing. "I naturally cannot say there was a plot, but if they had wanted to damage the Socialist Party they could not have done a better job," he said.

Brussels: Queen Fabiola queued for over an hour to vote because of delays blamed on polling booths being too small and chains on official pens being too short to reach across huge ballot papers. (Reuters)

EU watchdog hounds fraudsters

BY MICHAEL DYNES

IF THE amount of subsidised butter exported to the tiny Pyrenean country of Andorra under the European Union's common agricultural policy was actually consumed there, every Andorran citizen would have to eat three and a half pounds of butter a day.

EU Economic and Finance Ministers meet in Brussels today to put the final touches to new "administrative sanctions" designed to stamp out this and other so-called "irregularities", which have enabled fraudsters to deprive the European taxpayer of billions of pounds every year with impunity.

The new rules will apply to the EU's entire £67 billion annual budget, and should enable European Commission officials to reclaim funds without having to prove criminal intent in the domestic courts.

Individuals who claim EU funds to which they are not entitled, whether by

error or fraud, will also be required to pay interest, a fine of up to 15 per cent of the sum involved, and could find themselves banned from claiming EU funds in the future. New criminal sanctions are also in the pipeline.

The initiative is in part a response to a recent report by the European Court of Auditors, the EU spending watchdog, which attacked Brussels for weak internal audit procedures. Brussels has traditionally insisted that national governments are responsible for stamping out fraud. But the auditors' report heavily criticised officials for their "fire and forget" attitude towards spending programmes, as if their responsibility for EU funds ended once the money was paid out.

As a result, Brussels has helped fund a variety of dubious schemes, including a 28-mile motorway near Naples which came in 1,160 per cent over budget, without questioning the overspend. In one

celebrated case, which still holds the Brussels "can you beat this for brass neck" award, investigators discovered that a consignment of wheat had been unloaded from the bow of a ship in Hamburg harbour, and then reloaded in the stern so that the shipping company could claim a subsidy from the CAP for cereals exported from German soil.

But the anti-fraud initiative is also a response to the growing recognition among ministers and officials alike that such scandals are eroding popular support for the EU. In March, the Commission reported that fraud cases had risen sharply over the past year, from 2,538 to 4,168, while the cost of fraud had risen from £300 million to £800 million. Critics insist that the real figure is ten times that. But while the Commission rejects these claims as exaggerated, it has been forced to admit that only a fraction of the total fraud is detected.



The Pope: he will visit his native Poland today

Pope seeks forgiveness

OLIMONCE The Pope, speaking in the Czech Republic, asked forgiveness in the name of Roman Catholics yesterday for wrongs inflicted by the church on other churches.

He made the plea here as he canonised Jan Sarkander, a priest martyred during the 17th-century religious struggles. He said: "I ask forgiveness for the wrongs inflicted on non-Catholics during the turbulent history of these peoples." Today the Pope will visit his native Poland. (Reuters)

Berlusconi condemns 'baseless' tax charges

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN ROME

THE simmering feud between Silvio Berlusconi, the former Italian Prime Minister, and the pool of anti-corruption magistrates has reached boiling point after a decision at the weekend that the media magnate should answer corruption charges.

The Milanese judges applied on Saturday to summon Signor Berlusconi to court to face charges that he made illicit payments to officials to avoid taxes on companies in his Fininvest group. However, Signor Berlusconi, who underwent a minor hernia operation, said the authorities were acting on the basis of a "theorem without proof".

"Ever since I entered the political arena to try and improve public life in this country there has been a political prejudice against me," he said in yesterday's edition of the *Corriere della Sera*. "The judges have nothing," he added. Giuliano Ferrara, Signor Berlusconi's former government spokesman, rushed to his defence with a damning attack on the celebrated Milanese "clean

hands" judges in the newspaper *La Stampa*: "The truth is that they want to banish Silvio Berlusconi from political life."

However, the magistrates, including Francesco Saverio Borrelli, the chief prosecutor, made no comment yesterday over their application to bring Signor Berlusconi, 57, to trial.

The conflict between the media magnate and the judges dates back to his seven-month term as Italian Prime Minister. Last July, Signor Berlusconi's Government passed a law making it more difficult for magistrates to detain suspects in corruption cases, a move that prompted the Milanese judges to resign en masse. The magistrates withdrew their resignation when Signor Berlusconi climbed down over the decree, but the first shots had been fired.

The judges subsequently began to close the net around the Fininvest group and on July 23 one of the group's senior tax officials told them of the tax bribes allegedly authorised by Paolo Berlus-

coni, Silvio's brother. This information prompted an investigation which led to Saturday's request that both brothers face charges of complicity in corruption, along with members of the police. Some officers of the force are already being tried for similar offences involving other companies in Brescia.

The allegations revolve around three companies, which supposedly handed a total of more than 330 million lire (£130,000) to evade taxes. Signor Berlusconi has constantly maintained that the affair involved extortion by public officials rather than fraud committed by the companies. He said the fact that the prosecutor had waited until the six-month deadline to ask for the case to be brought to court was "proof that there are no witnesses against me or documents that accuse me".

Judicial officials said a further charge was pending, concerning a payment of 50 million lire by Telepiu, the pay-TV channel that Fininvest controls as a minority shareholder.

Cossacks prepare to ride again in defence of Russia

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S notorious Cossacks, the fierce horsemen who defended the country's borders against invaders and helped the tsars to create an empire, are ready to mount up once more in the service of their country.

For the first time since the last Cossacks were defeated by the Bolsheviks — to face exile and persecution under Stalin — the frontiersmen are to be rehabilitated and are expected to be reintegrated into the armed forces.

"The Cossacks have remained a real force," said Viktor Mironov, a parliamentarian who is drawing up a Bill next month for the reinstatement of the seven Cossack armies in the military. "Our aim is to restore a united movement... to guard our state." The issue is to come up next week at a meeting of the powerful Presidential Security Council, when a report will recommend that the Cossacks be given responsibility for guarding key border areas.

The Cossacks emerged in the late 15th century as former serfs, misfits and adventurers who escaped the Kremlin's authority by establishing settlements on Russia's frontiers. Although they lived as free men, the Cossacks had to defend the borders from attacks by Tartars, Turks and other invaders.

Catherine the Great brought them under her control by offering them tax exemption in exchange for military service, a patronage that lasted until 1917 when most Cossacks fought against

the Bolsheviks until they were defeated in 1923.

In a recent letter to President Yeltsin, the Council of Atamans, the Cossack chiefs, offered to provide a Kremlin honour guard for the Russian leader. Reinstating the Cossacks as an institution could be dangerous, however. While the romantic image of Cossack life, made famous in Mikhail Sholokhov's epic, *And Quiet Flows the Don*,



A Cossack soldier in the Second World War

portrays the Cossacks as a pioneering and noble community, their exploits in today's Russia have been far less honourable.

The Cossacks have emerged as mercenaries in ethnic conflicts from Tajikistan to Chechnya, Abkhazia, Moldavia and even the former Yugoslavia; and seven Cossack chiefs are under investigation for links with organised crime.

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■ VISUAL ART

The Impressionists, and those they rebelled against, are brought face to face in the Hayward's new show
OPENS: Today
REVIEW: Tomorrow



■ OPERA

Rare Rossini opens the Glyndebourne season with the first British staging of his Greek tragedy *Ermione*
OPENS: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



■ POP

Stevie Wonder's recent album had some of the old sparkle. Will the full vintage be uncorked at the Albert Hall?
GIG: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



■ THEATRE

Judi Dench leads the Forties dropouts in a National revival of Rodney Ackland's play, *Absolute Hell*
OPENS: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO
FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

Looking back on celluloid

In his first report from the Cannes Film Festival, Geoff Brown reviews British period dramas and notable foreign debuts

The 48th Cannes Film Festival lost no time in subjecting its audiences to sensory bombardment. In *The City of Lost Children*, the long-awaited follow-up to *Delicatessen* from those quirky Frenchmen Jean-Pierre Jeunet and Marc Caro, we were asked to follow the adventures of a wizened inventor who lives on an oilrig with a talking brain kept in a fish tank, a sextet of clones, a dwarf woman called Miss Bismuth, and a horde of children kidnapped so that the inventor can extract from them what he lacks: his own dreams.

Should I also mention the Siamese twins, the band of one-eyed thugs, and the echoes of Charles Dickens and Jules Verne? Probably not: you can already tell that Jeunet and Caro have gone horribly overboard. This is an indigestible, ugly film, packed with cleverness and special effects, but lacking emotional appeal.

Besides this opening attraction, the festival is not yet shining with a spotlight on France's own cinema. The flag that keeps on being hoisted is, unusually, the Union Jack, and Stephen Dorrell, our man in Westminster, is in town to witness the spectacle. In the competition section there are new films by Ken Loach and Terence Davies, while playwright Christopher Hampton tries on the director's hat in *Carrington*. Elsewhere, Hugh Grant flashes his pearly teeth in Christopher Monger's *The Englishman Who Went Up A Hill But Came Down A Mountain* — a title not chosen with cinema marauders in mind.

Since Stephen Dorrell is our Heritage Secretary, he should feel at home with the amount of period dramas. On some days you cannot move in Cannes for kings in wigs and horse-drawn carriages. Not in Ken Loach's

film, of course. In *Land and Freedom* he turns back the clock to 1936, and sends a naive unemployed Liverpool lad out to Spain to fight in the Civil War. The result is not quite an epic: Loach's shooting style does not include conspicuous displays. But this is still his most ambitious film so far: a large-scale, valiant attempt to relive a period crucial to the Left's political culture, but remote from general audiences.

At first Ian Hart's protagonist goes into battle with dewy eyes. "It's a people's army," he writes back home. "Just ordinary men and women fighting for a cause." In lengthy discussion scenes about subjects like collective farming, Loach aims to capture the volunteers' fierce belief. Later, Loach and his screenwriter, Jim Allen, allow their hero to grow disillusioned with the Communist Party. Despite Hart's persuasive performance, the script's political minutiae interfere with the story's momentum. But at a time when too many period films are as spineless as blanchmange, this miscalculation is never enough to derail a work with stark visual power and that unfashionable thing, a point of view.

Lack of a personal voice certainly restricts the appeal of *Carrington*, Christopher Hampton's biographical portrait of the passionate relationship between Dora Carrington, painter, and Lytton Strachey, Bloomsbury guru and imminent homosexual. Hampton's script, a pet project for many years, was due for the attention of Mike Newell. As a stand-in director, Hampton acts as a glorified traffic cop, guiding the flow of Bohemian interiors, quaint clothing and barbed words. But he does little to animate his script, or prevent



Ken Loach turns the clock back to 1936 with his Cannes offering, *Land and Freedom*, in which a naive Liverpool lad is caught up in the Spanish Civil War

Jonathan Pryce stealing the film from Emma Thompson. As Carrington, Thompson looks earnest and piquant in short hair, but remains a cipher. As Strachey, Jonathan Pryce prays his arms and legs round the furniture, knits and announces in his pinched voice: "I'm a martyr to the piles." No contest.

Merchant Ivory's Jefferson in Paris, also in competition, presents another example of period detail swamping a film's argument. As my eyes roamed around the court of Louis XVI and the Paris home of Thomas Jefferson in his early days as America's Ambassador to France, an urge crept upon me to force James Ivory to direct a film set in a bare room with a cast of two in workmen's overalls. Until that happy day arrives, we must stay content with the cold, decorative pleasures of a film like this. Nick Nolte, crowned with ringlets, makes Thomas Jefferson

signified and cerebral: not the kind of person whom Greta Scacchi, bored wife of a British painter, would waste any time over. And not the person either to sustain a feature film.

But enough of debilitating good taste. What of cinema in the raw? Not much of that so far, unless you include *Albino Alligator*, *Attack of the 60 Foot Centipede*, *Soft Bodies* — *The Movie*, and the other delights on sale in the festival's market. Yet there have been two notable debuts in the Director's Fortnight section. One is the first cinema production of Robert Lepage, Canadian wizard of the theatre. *Le Confessionnel* spins a complex tale around a key event in Quebec City's history: Alfred Hitchcock's arrival in 1952 to shoot scenes for his guilt-ridden thriller *I Confess*. Lepage's script jumps back and forth between that time and the late Eighties, when Lorraine Bibeau starts a family quest that leads back

to the church Hitchcock used as a location and the secrets told in confession. The material is too convoluted to keep us in suspense, but there is something infectious about the way Lepage plays with cinema. Like a child entranced with a new toy.

The White Balloon, from Iran, could not be more different. Jafar Panahi tells his tale without frills, without professional actors. All he needs is a camera trained on a seven-year-old girl, who badgers her mother to let her buy a goldfish for the New Year's Day celebrations. The precious banknote falls prey to snake charmers; then it falls down a pavement grating. How to retrieve it? Panahi observes the little human drama with simple, affecting eloquence. So here ends Cannes' first lesson. Fancy digital effects, or Versailles' Hall of Mirrors, cannot guarantee a good film. The essential ingredient is a director with a heart.

LONDON CONCERTS

Downtown top-ranking

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THE New York Composers Orchestra was formed in 1986 by composer/pianist Wayne Horvitz and composer/spouse Robin Holcomb as an outlet for their own large-ensemble pieces and those of their associates in what has become known as the "downtown scene".

Although never a self-proclaimed movement, its members — John Zorn, Elliott Sharp, Bill Frisell, Bobby Previte prominent among them — share, above all, an openness to all forms of music from Ives and Copland to Hendrix and Morricone, and a willingness to assimilate them into their own projects.

The resulting music's setting sin can be an arch, hip glossiness, but in the right hands — as it undoubtedly is in NYCO — it can be tremendously exciting.

A core of American players — reedsman Doug Weiselman and Marty Ehrlich along with drummer Previte and the co-founders — has been retained in the 15-piece NYCO for this six-date Contemporary Music Network tour, and it was their compositions the band played to a highly appreciative QEH audience. Holcomb's pieces — *First Programme* in *Standard Time*, *Night Birds*: Open 24

Hours and Always Live On — were the most ambitious, packed with startling juxtapositions of, say, chamber-music passages and military-style snare drum rhythms, or the coposers' rousing free piano with clarinet and flute fiddles.

Ehrlich's and Horvitz's compositions, by contrast, were more straightforward affairs, and twofold of the latter's — *New Wits* and *Don't Stop Now* — were jewels of controlled energy, yet almost humbly accessible. It was Whelman and Previte, however, who perhaps provided the evening's more memorable moments, the former with his short, plaintive melancholic *The Montha Section*, the latter with an extended version of *To Air*, which featured the whole band singings wistful theme under a pically fluent Henry Lowth trumpet solo.

CHRIS PAKER

Party piece

Philharmonia/
Rizzi
Festival Hall

WRITING to his publisher just before the premiere of his *Requiem*, Verdi insisted that "one mustn't sing this Mass in the way one sings an opera, and therefore phrasing and dynamics that may be fine in the theatre won't please me at all, not at all."

Easier said than done. With the prolonged drama of the *Dies Irae*, and with the *Lacrimosa* reworking a duet that was originally meant for Don Carlos, it is always a real challenge for both conductor and singers not to yield to operatic temptation.

But there is a way, and Carlo Rizzi and his soloists found it. Rizzi's close attention to the smallest points of dynamic and rhythmic inflection, as detailed by Verdi, frequently drew the work into a close, almost intimate focus, in all but its most dramatically extrovert passages.

This work is one of the Philharmonia Chorus's great party pieces: even so, Rizzi contributed his own input to the chorus's instinct and to the admirable training of David Hill by lovingly shaping every melodic contour, concentrating on details of weight and mea-

sure within each piece's line. Rizzi took care, too, to match the choral intonation to that of his soloists. Soprano and mezzo (not to come much better-matched than Jane Eaglen and Linda Finnie, who listened and breathed closely with each other, particularly in the clear, light air of their *Agnus Dei*).

Eaglen ringed each ensemble with a bright ho of sound. Finnie sang de of the saddest and most internalised *Lacrimosa* this work has heard for some time. Alastair Mees's steady bass was a nicollet for Dennis O'Neill's characteristically passionate and Italianate tenor. O'Neill's hushed sacrifice of *Pier* and praise in the *Hier* epitomised the powerful simplicity of this performance.

HILARY FITCH

Lean, but no Fats

THE publicity for the "Born to Rock'n'Roll" tour made a virtue of the venerability of its three stars, pointing out that this first-ever UK package of Little Richard, Chuck Berry and Fats Domino — combined age 197 — might also be the last. The observation grew more poignant when Domino, 67, took ill during the first of these three shows in Sheffield and had to bow out of the Wembley date. Now the heat was on: could Richard and Chuck, two of rock'n'roll's original loose cannons, win the day?

The Georgia Peach tottered onstage, still looking absurdly spritely in pink jacket and shoes and tousled black mane. Little Richard, who combines supreme egotism with disarming realism, inquired: "Do I look good for 62?", shortly after opening with *Good Golly Miss Molly* — which he liked so much, he just plain did it again.

It's a brave musician who tries to play the game of keep-up that being in his band entails. "This is once in a lifetime," he said. "You don't see this often. Some of us're gettin' old, some of you are too."

Richard's boogie woogie-inspired piano and unmissable vocals have stayed the distance, and, while *Baby Face* and *Rip It Up* were perfunctory and *Long Tall Sally* a mere cameo, when he applied himself, Lucille was

POP
Little Richard/
Chuck Berry
Wembley Arena

the treat and the tease she always was.

If a promoter was looking for an act to provide value for money, Chuck Berry would not be the first name he would think of. Back for his second British concert of the year, Berry has sadly become notorious for parsimonious versions of his classic songs and checking his watch in mid-performance.

As he stumbled unceremoniously into *Roll Over Beethoven*, his guitar reaching in the dark for the tune, the auguries were awful, and a three-piece band wearing their office clothes didn't add to the spectacle. *Carol*, segueing neatly into *Little Queenie*, had more spirit and, as the performance progressed, you could almost see Berry deciding that, just for once, he'd go for broke.

Joking about playing a longer set "to save face", Berry did just that, even getting away with *My Ding-A-Ling* and ending with a rousing *Reelin' & Rockin'*. Rock'n'roll may be a little poorly, but it will never die.

PAUL SEXTON

DANCE: Debra Craine on a triple bill of historic ground-breaking ballets



Lust personified: Marion Tait and Joseph Cipolla in BRB's revival of Antony Tudor's 1942 *Pillar of Fire*

Hats off to a fiery passion

In their different ways, each offering on Birmingham Royal Ballet's current triple bill at Covent Garden broke artistic ground when it was premiered in the first half of the 20th century. And of the three, only *Le Tricorne* fails to justify director Peter Wright's commendable policy of reviving a neglected part of ballet's heritage.

Made for Diaghilev's Ballets Russes in 1919 by Massine, to music by Manuel de Falla with eye-catching designs by Picasso, *Le Tricorne* (or "The Three-Cornered Hat") was one of the earliest and most influential examples of the comedy ballet.

But whereas at its premiere in London the work's exotic Spanish flavour was deemed colourful and exciting (and its Spanish-style choreography surely better danced), this revival was a limp affair, bereft of hot-blooded Andalusian pride and incapable of translating Massine's unsophisticated comic detailing into sympathetic characterisation. The decorative arrogance of Spanish dance eluded both Michael O'Hare and Chencia Williams, as the Miller and his flirtatious wife, neither of whom seemed to grasp the essential technique of choreographic accents whipped into clarity.

BRB's dancers were much happier in the company revival of *Pillar of Fire*, Antony Tudor's 1942 exploration of sexual frustration and societal repression, set to Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht*. The ballet's boldly stated themes represented a radical departure from the coded sexuality of the 19th century; how much later choreographers like MacMillan owed to Tudor's work.

Half a century later, Tudor's masterpiece still retains the power to shock. His brilliantly lucid characterisations, his

seamless narrative drive, his ability to suggest and, where necessary, economically illustrate the interior dialogue of his characters, make for a perfect piece of psychological dance-drama. See how bursts of pointework are used to punctuate his characters' emotional sentences, or how potent is a sudden ungainly jerk of a crooked leg.

Pillar of Fire also marks a personal triumph for BRB's senior ballerina, Marion Tait, reasserting her claim as Britain's pre-eminent dance actress. Tait wears anguish and abandon like a second skin. As Hagar, the woman torn apart by unfulfilled sexuality

and isolated by the stifling moral rectitude of her New England society, she is coiled with the longing of unrequited love, ripe for her seduction by the Young Man (a superbly unctuous Joseph Cipolla).

Every fibre of the ballerina's body is alive with nuances even her back — frequently to the audience — throbs with an impossibly defined expressiveness. And her final salvation with Kevin O'Hare's compassionate Friend is so intimately realised that it belies the distance between stage and audience.

Ballet Theatre (now American Ballet Theatre) commissioned *Pillar of Fire* and was also the birthplace of Balanchine's 1947 work, *Theme and Variations*. Theme (to Tchaikovsky) is both homage and harbinger, a celebration of the choreographer's own roots in the grand classicism of Imperial Russia and a declaration of the speed and democratic openness of the neo-classicism he was developing in America. It's a great company work, affording both soloists and corps the spotlight of virtuoso display. The entire BRB cast shone, led by a radiant Miyako Yoshida.

WOMEN OF TROY
by EURIPIDES
in a translation by KENNETH McLEISH
"A GREAT PRODUCTION"

ARTS
THE WEEK
AHEAD

MUSIC

A reformed character or the same bad-boy Ivo? Pogorelich gives a piano recital at the Festival Hall
CONCERT: Tuesday
REVIEW: Thursday



DANCE

London City Ballet come to Sadler's Wells for one week only with Galina Samsova's staging of *Giselle*
OPENS: Tuesday
REVIEW: Friday



FILM

Tim Burton's brilliant bio-pic of the world's worst movie director, *Ed Wood*, is premiered in Cannes and London
OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



BOOKS

Margaret Drabble's absorbing biography evokes the strange and vulnerable world of Angus Wilson
IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Thursday

THEATRE: Putting the flop into floppy ears; intriguing corner of racial history loses the plot

Rabbit fails the comedy test

Harvey
Shaftesbury

Amazing though the fact is, author Mary Chase won a Pulitzer Prize for this silly little play 10 years on to run for four years on Broadway and almost two in London; James Stewart starred in the film, and even came over to Britain to appear in a revival 20 years ago.

I know nothing about its plot except that the mild-mannered hero believes he has been befriended by an invisible rabbit, six feet tall, called Harvey. The premise has promise, but how lamentably Chase betrays that promise with her frail command of stagecraft and reliance on reach-me-down supporting characters.

The plot, briefly: Elwood Dowd's sister tries to have him committed to a private sanatorium, but complications ensue and in the end she decides she would rather he continue as a genial crackpot than become cured but crabby. Along the line she has nervously admitted that occasionally she sees Harvey too, and by the end of the play the chief psychiatrist is drinking with him. Since we are shown locked doors magically opening, we are left to conclude that the rabbit, although invisible, is real: some kind of spirit who has taken on an animal form.

Presumably in 1944, when this play was written, the theatregoing public were everywhere was in the mood for silliness. Three years earlier, *Blithe Spirit* had shown that ghosts, although in this case visible ones, could be acceptable dramatic personae. Numerous numerous creatures have peopled the stage since then, generally malevolent because such are the times we live in, and the authors of *Una Pooka*.

Gentle Jack and Brimstone and Treacle have used them to voice some comment on their times.

Chase's probable point is that we should tolerate eccentrics because they may possess a special wisdom. Seen against the other characters, who are either thuggish or superficial, Dowd's gentle decency is certainly to be preferred, but there is no suggestion he came by his goodness because of the rabbit. He is said to spend most of his time drinking in bars, although Gordon Kaye plays down this side of his character. He moves through the play, a mild, subdued fellow provided with nothing comic to say or do—or, if comedy is intended in the script, not conveying it in his performance. He is sweetly stubborn in a redoubtable sort of way and looks happy whenever his Harvey reappears, but his is not exactly a performance you would hurry up Shaftesbury Avenue to catch.

Sooner his underplaying, however, than the excesses on show around him: Ken Wynne's eccentric wheezing judge and the eyelid-bating women. Ruc McManahan is sometimes funny as the twittering sister, but oh, the boring subplots, the inept exits contrived to avoid confrontations, Chase's inability to create relationships credible even in comic terms. Clifford Williams's leaden direction makes the heart sink.

JEREMY KINGSTON



In it for the bunny: television stalwarts Gordon Kaye and Ruc McManahan do their best with the faded charms of Mary Chase's 50-year-old *Harvey*

Overdone over here

The Life and Death of a Buffalo Soldier
Bristol Old Vic

land's investigations are grafted on to a present-day frame. Sonny (a dignified yet fierce John Amos), who is Jimmy's offspring from an abandoned American affair, decides to find out what befell his father. Stirred into indignation by his own son, Foster, a politicised college boy who chases up the government documents and newspaper cuttings on the case, he tracks down Joyce in Bristol.

The portrait of racism proves multi-layered — not just American but British too.

white and black, past and present. Parallels are emphasised by Shaun Parkes (zealously slanging, loose-limbed or furiously shadow boxing), who doubles as Jimmy and Foster. But the play's mirroring is not always subtle and the unfolding of Jimmy's fate is too slow.

As the young Joyce, Isabel Brook is an appalling first. That is to say, she acts the first appealingly, bounding around as if she has fleas. John Sharian is an unimpressive, play-legged sailor. Still, Ann Rye can be comically spunky as the old Joyce, cussing through her sorrow-numbing cheap sherry. Brook also improves with time, rising to a screaming match with Jimmy when he rejects her on learning she is married. This bitter misunderstanding enrages her into crying rape.

The closing twists of the drama verge on the contrived, hurrying through Jimmy's happy release, his alarming enlistment for combat, then his sudden stabbing by the biggest military police just as he is making it up with Joyce. Hardly has Sonny extracted the last chapter of the story from Joyce, taking back his accusations against her, than her heart gives out. Sonny is instantaneously trapped, as we hear a neighbour yelling to the cops that there is a "blackie" in Joyce's flat. The point, if not the plot, is well made. Racism continues in the city today.

KATE BASSETT

Heading the Ivor league

OVERTURES

was assumed to have finished its five-year run in the spring last year in favour of the ill-fated *Duncan* production of *The Millionaire*. The autumn may also see a West End return for the spring's biggest hit, Maggie Smith in *Three Tall Women*, if she does not plump instead for the London premiere of Neil Si-

mon's current off-Broadway play, *Current Suite*. Definitely on offer later this year are two familiar National Theatre shows: a further West End run for *An Inspector Calls*, and a November opening at the Old Vic for *The Wind in the Willows*.

STAND-UP comedian Eddie Izzard — who has recently shifted to heavier fare in such plays as David Mamet's *Copycat* — is heading for the

large screen. He will co-star with Gérard Philipe and Bob Hoskins in *Secret Agent*, the next film from the writer and director Christopher Hampton (whose *Christina* may well be one of the year's major Academy Award contenders).

THE soundtrack of *Batman*. Forever, the sequel starring Val Kilmer, will have a distinctly British feel. P. J. Harvey, Seal, Nick Cave, Eddie Reader and Massive Attack are among the artists included. U2 also provide a new song.

LONDON

STEVE WUNDER. The 10th of American soul music makes a one-stop visit to the UK on the European tour for two exclusive London concerts. At the Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 0171-589 8218. Tonight and tomorrow 7.30pm.

JAZZ AROUND TOWN. Jacques Derom, daughter of Claude Lorraine and John Derom, makes her debut at the Royal Albert Hall. She will be accompanied by a band of jazz musicians. At the Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 0171-589 8218. Tonight and tomorrow 7.30pm.

SEMPER PARADOX. Last week of performances for Sam Shepherd's first play for a decade. A comedy about a young man who has been living with his parents for 10 years. At the Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 0171-589 8218. Tonight and tomorrow 7.30pm.

ABSOLUTE HELL. Set in a drinking club in the summer of 1945, Rodney Ackland's neglected state-of-the-art comedy is played by a top-class cast headed by Judi Dench and Greg Kinnear. At the National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 0171-589 8218. Now previewing 7.30pm, opens tomorrow 7.30pm.

DEALERS CHOICE. Panto. Mother's lastonating panto drama, transferred from the National. Funny ones about, along with perceptions of the roots of gambling. At the National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 0171-589 8218. Now previewing 7.30pm, opens tomorrow 7.30pm.

THE DUCKS OF MALFI. Juliet Stevenson and Simon Russell Beale in Webster's tragedy of incest, murder and the corruption of the mind. Philo Franks directs Greenwich Theatre's sell-out success. At the National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 0171-589 8218. Now previewing 7.30pm, opens tomorrow 7.30pm.

FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE. The plot is jumping around now that Clarke Peters's celebrated musical has bounced back into the West End. At the National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 0171-589 8218. Now previewing 7.30pm, opens tomorrow 7.30pm.

JEFFREY. Christopher Fields plays a New Yorker turned in to a totalitarian regime. Tim Lucan directs Paul Rudnick's off-Broadway hit with a million camp quips. At the National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 0171-589 8218. Now previewing 7.30pm, opens tomorrow 7.30pm.

THE KILLING OF SISTER GEORGE. Adrian Noble's new comedy, the story of a woman who is killed by her husband. At the National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 0171-589 8218. Now previewing 7.30pm, opens tomorrow 7.30pm.

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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Krys Anderson

ELSEWHERE

BRIGHTON. The first British concert by Japan's Steve Nicks could be a real treat for the fans of the band. At the Brighton Festival, Brighton, 01273 333333. Tonight and tomorrow 7.30pm.

GLYNDEBOURNE. A second season of the opera house's new season. At the Glyndebourne Opera House, Glyndebourne, 01753 850000. Tonight and tomorrow 7.30pm.

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SHEFFIELD

Blair and Mozart are the focus of the week here at the annual Sheffield Music Festival. At the Sheffield Music Festival, Sheffield, 0114 259999. Today Sat 12.45 and 7.45pm.

YORK. An Ayrton's magnificent circus. At the Ayrton's Circus, York, 01904 444444. Today Sat 12.45 and 7.45pm.

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ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

MARLBOROUGH FINE ART 81 Abchurch Lane, London EC4A 3DF. Tel: 01753 444444. Today Sat 12.45 and 7.45pm.

ROYAL MUSEUM

ROYAL MUSEUM. Today Sat 12.45 and 7.45pm.

CARAVEL

THE GREEN ROOM. Today Sat 12.45 and 7.45pm.

BLOSSOM

BLOSSOM. Today Sat 12.45 and 7.45pm.

OPERA & BALLET

OPERA & BALLET. Today Sat 12.45 and 7.45pm.

ART GALLERIES

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CARAVEL

THE GREEN ROOM.

Astronomers take a sideways view □ A new way to measure the age of trees □ Why the people of Herculaneum never needed a dentist



FROM today, the rings of Saturn are edge-on when viewed from the Earth. For the next few months, astronomers have an opportunity that arises only once every 15 years or so to observe the planet unblinded by the light from the rings.

Two astronomers eager to exploit the opportunity are Dr Carl Murray and Dr Mitch Gordon, of Queen Mary and Westfield College in London. Last year, they reported the possible existence of seven previously-unknown moons of Saturn, to add to the 18 already known.

They discovered the moons by painstakingly sifting through 20,000 images of Saturn sent back more than ten years ago by the Voyager 2 spacecraft. Since then they have had second thoughts, and reduced the number they are claiming to five — but if they turn out to be right, they will be the first UK-based astronomers to detect a satellite since Philibert Melotte, of the Royal Greenwich Observatory, discovered Pasiphae, a moon of Jupiter, in 1908.

All eyes turn to Saturn



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

"These are very small satellites and they are far too faint to be seen on a regular basis from Earth," says Dr Murray. To try to confirm their existence, the two astronomers will be making long exposures of the planet with the 4.2-metre William Herschel telescope in Las Palmas, hoping that they have had second thoughts, and reduced the number they are claiming to five — but if they turn out to be right, they will be the first UK-based astronomers to detect a satellite since Philibert Melotte, of the Royal Greenwich Observatory, discovered Pasiphae, a moon of Jupiter, in 1908.

The event that begins today is a known as a ring-plane crossing. Of the 18 known moons of Saturn,

13 of them have been discovered at such times, Dr Murray says. But oddly, the disappearance of the rings is also a good chance to learn more about them. When the glare of the main rings disappeared in 1966 and 1980, a whole new diffuse ring — the E ring — and five new moons were discovered.

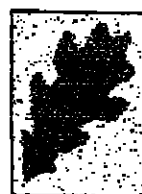
The planets of Saturn lie in the same plane as the rings, so their orbits will also be edge-on to us. This provides a chance to watch them passing in front of one another. In 1997, the Cassini-Huygens spacecraft will be launched on a roundabout

route to Saturn, where it is due to arrive in 2004. One part of the probe is designed to be detached and land by parachute on Titan, the most fascinating of Saturn's moons.

Dr Murray plans to watch this summer as the moon Dione passes in front of Titan. "There is a new infra-red camera attached to the Herschel telescope, and if we watch at the right wavelength, and know at any moment where Dione is, we should be able to use the information to get a more precise map of the southern hemisphere of Titan. This will then be used to plan the landing site for the Huygens probe."

Titan has a thick atmosphere made up of nitrogen and methane, and may have oceans of liquid ethane and methane. Pictures taken by the Hubble space telescope show that it also has a mysterious feature about the size of Australia on its surface, but whether this is ocean or continent remains obscure. Until the satellite arrives in 2004, it is unlikely that all the questions can be answered, but this year's ring-plane crossing will give astronomers a start.

Branch lines



WORKING out the age of ancient trees while they are still standing has long been a matter of guesswork, but now the Forestry Commission reckons it has devised a much more reliable method. It involves no drilling or cutting, so is ideal for prize specimens too precious to be damaged.

The method, described by the commission's research dendrologist John White in the current issue of *Tree News*, depends on measuring the girth of the tree at breast height. So long as the tree is alive, this dimension increases every year, but not at a consistent rate. Not only can poor seasons reduce the growth rate, but a tree also goes through different cycles of growth at different ages.

Much of the research has been done on oak in England, which shows a very consistent pattern. For about the first tenth of their life-span, oaks produce wide, even growth rings, but then, when their

crown is fully-developed, they shift gear. From then on, the rings tend to become narrower, simply because the amount of new wood produced by a fixed crown is spread over a larger area. In old age, rings decline even further. While the tree stands, of course, none of this can be seen, but the patterns have enabled the commission's experts to prepare tables from which age can be calculated by knowing the species, its setting, and its girth at breast height.

Grin tidings



THE people of Herculaneum, who met a sticky end when Vesuvius erupted in 79AD, at least went to their untimely graves with healthy teeth. An Italian team of dentists and pathologists say that despite a diet rich in honey, the remains of 53 skeletons from Herculaneum it has examined show little evidence of tooth decay. The secret was a water supply containing plenty of fluoride.

The team, led by Dr Gina Fornaciari, of the University of Pisa, has studied 1,275 teeth from the people who died when Herculaneum was overwhelmed along with Pompeii. Only 49 of the teeth showed decay, the scientists report in *The Lancet*.

This is a much lower proportion than in other ancient populations, and barely a third of the decay suffered by people in Roman Britain. The team is convinced that fluoride was responsible because many of the teeth show the kind of changes which can be caused by excessive amounts of fluoride.

Measurements of the amount of fluoride in the tooth enamel also produce very high values, a finding supported by the fact that there is a lot of fluoride in the water-bearing strata at Herculaneum. There is, however, little in the soil, ruling out contamination.

Just two of the skeletons failed to show high fluoride levels. These, the authors speculate, were the unluckiest victims of all: members of the Roman aristocracy who happened to be staying at their villas in Herculaneum the very day Vesuvius erupted.

MICHAEL POWELL

The biologist who found a wider stage

Hugh Aldersey-Williams talks to Dr Nancy Lane about advising Whitehall, and Tom Stoppard's plays

As a postgraduate at Oxford, Nancy Lane would leave her laboratory where she was working on the nerve cells of molluscs, to rehearse with her OUDS contemporaries such as Michael York, Terry Jones, Esther Rantzen, and Oliver Ford Davies. "I think all the others were arts students," she recalls, "and with much more flexible timetables than mine. It meant I had to try to be incredibly efficient. I would nip back from rehearsals to finish off my work late in the evening."

"The other actors didn't consider me as a scientist. They accepted me as one of the gang." She went on to be a research scientist, specialising in intercellular junctions in invertebrates, but believes her experience in the theatre has been immensely helpful as a lecturer. "You learn how to handle yourself on a stage. I think all academics should have that experience — at the moment they get no training at all in lecturing. And, of course, speaking your own words, rather than a playwright's, adds to the tension."

Dr Lane was born in Nova

Scotia, in Canada, to a civil servant father and school-teacher mother. Neither was a scientist. She was an all-rounder at school and, fortunately for her, the Canadian high school system did not force the early specialisation that occurs here. "Somehow I felt, rightly or wrongly, that I could keep up arts subjects on my own at university, but not the science because it is so technical."

After Oxford, she studied briefly in America and then gained a fellowship at Girton College, Cambridge, in 1968 and has been doing research in the university's Department of Zoology ever since. She met her husband, Richard Perham, "over an electron microscope" shortly after arriving (he is now a professor and head of the Biochemistry Department).

She did not drop out when she had children, taking only five months' maternity leave in all for the births of her daughter and son. "I knew that if I left for longer then someone else would take over the position. One had to throw oneself back into lab work," it was particularly tough, she

admitted, since her son, Quentin, has cerebral palsy.

Her life as a career scientist and mother widened in the 1980s. One day she read in a newspaper that the Society of West End Theatres was looking for judges to serve on the Olivier Awards panel. "They wanted people to write in and say what plays they'd seen. So I did." She was a judge from 1988-90. "I must have seen around 110 different performances over that time. I hardly missed a play. I would work on the train coming down, go to the theatre, then work again going home." David Hare's *Racing Demon*, the first in his trilogy, won an award. "I admire his writing," she wishes that Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia* had been on then. "It is such an interesting commentary on the maths that gave rise to chaos theory. And splendidly he gives the gift of mathematics to a girl."

She so enjoyed her trips to London, and the sense of participating in a wider life than the university, that, on the suggestion of a friend who worked in the City, she allowed her name to go forward to headhunting firms specialising in filling non-executive directorships. She is now a non-exec with Smith & Nephew, the international healthcare company which manufactures state-of-the-art wound dressings, plaster casts, and orthopaedic devices such as artificial hips. "Academics so often don't appreciate the need to generate wealth and make market-



Dr Nancy Lane working in her laboratory at Cambridge: she says she has found her acting experience an invaluable help in the lecture theatre

able products, while businessmen frequently don't understand the need for fundamental research," she says.

It was as result of this new involvement in commerce, she assumes, that the chief executive of Boots rang her in Washington at the National Institutes for Health, where she was collaborating on research to find an animal model for Alzheimer's disease, and asked her to join John Major's advisory panel on the Citizen's Charter.

"Suddenly, I was flung into the Cabinet Office with frequent meetings with this huge team of civil servants on the Citizen's Charter." Talking to the Prime Minister, she mentioned the forthcoming White Paper on science policy and

hoped it would have something to say about making science more attractive to women and encouraging employers to get rid of glass ceilings.

Mr Major took her comment to heart. Even though the mandarins thought that evidence of a shortage of women in science could be merely anecdotal, wheels were set in motion to gather hard data. Dr Lane went on to chair the working party on women in science, engineering and technology which resulted in its report, *The Rising Tide*, early last year.

As many girls start off doing biological science as boys, she says, but science teachers

appeared to spend more time on the boys. At every stage of secondary and tertiary education, a proportion of women drop out. The same attrition is visible in career science. Dr Lane's younger female research colleagues complain that they find too few openings.

Only one senior academic researcher in ten is a woman: only one in 50 becomes a professor. One of the report's practical consequences is a small unit in the Cabinet Office whose job is to monitor the progress of women in science. It has begun assembling a central catalogue of databases of women doing reasonably senior work in science, engineering and technology, so that there can be no excuse for not having women

represented on advisory boards and quangos. It will also liaise with Opportunity 2000, which is encouraging employers to make sure that women are not overlooked for promotion.

Dr Lane has recently been to hear the actress Fiona Shaw delivering a lecture in Cambridge on the challenge of playing different parts. She

could surely have given it herself, for she is now collaborating with a television screen writer on a soap with a scientific theme and, of course, lots of parts for women. But first she is off to David Hare's *Skylight*?, the new production of *The Plough and the Stars*, and "I must see Fiona Shaw playing Richard II at the National".

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DIVING FROM 10 METRES — 70 —

A giant heart to our galaxy

Does a black hole lie at the centre of our galaxy? Nature, by providing its own zoom lens, may soon enlighten us.

The centre lies about 27,000 light years from Earth. Visible light coming from the heart of the galaxy is no good to astronomers because it is absorbed by dust shrouding the galactic centre. But infrared light and radio waves, both of which have longer wavelengths than visible light, can pierce the dust and tell us at least a little about the depths from which they emerge. This is where the excitement begins.

By far the most furious radio emitter at the Milky Way's heart is a celestial object that astronomers have christened Sagittarius A*, or SA for short. SA appears to anchor everything else in the galaxy, including an estimated 100 billion stars, and could measure anything up to 10 AU across (1 AU is the Earth-Sun distance). SA is the only object in our galaxy which appears to be at rest with respect to everything else around it.

In the early Seventies, British astronomers suggested that SA might be a black hole. The strong radio waves emitted could be the death throes of gas that whizzes round the holes before being sucked in.

The black hole would have formed, say astronomers, in much the same way as any

A natural 'zoom lens' may provide evidence that a huge black hole lies at the centre of the Milky Way

other black hole. A star near the galactic centre would have collapsed, leaving a core the size of several suns. This would have quickly swelled to perhaps millions of solar masses as nearby stars were swallowed up.

The problem is that astronomers cannot simply point to a greedy void in the galaxy and pronounce it a black hole. The beasts cannot be seen at any wavelengths because nothing, not even light, can escape their gargantuan gravitational pull.

And rather than sprawling their huge masses over detectable distances, black holes are incredibly small and compact. The only ones that researchers point to with any confidence are those which produce an effect on nearby objects.

The most promising candidates tend to be one partner in a binary system. The companion star steadily loses material to the black hole, but this material does not get sucked in straightaway. It spirals in

gradually, producing distinctive high energy signals, mainly X-ray.

Such signals have been spotted coming from the galactic centre. Furthermore, they can be traced back with good accuracy to SA, leading to the assumption that material is circling SA at great speed. And there, astronomers insist, you have it. SA must be a black hole. And, because SA is the only galactic object to stay still with respect to everything else, it must be an absolutely enormous black hole to boot.

But the prosecution evidence must stand up to the defence's alibi. In this case, an alibi has come from astronomers who deny the idea of a multimillion solar mass black hole. The huge mass that lies at the galactic centre, they say, belongs not to a black hole but to a nearby group of stars. Extreme proponents of this theory even argue that there may be no black hole there at all.

This is where nature's zoom lens comes in. If there is a light

source behind an object, light rays passing either side are bent by its gravity before being seen by an observer. This effect, known as gravitational lensing, was first discussed by Einstein in 1919. Multiple images result, and observers can work out the mass of the object from how far apart these images are.

Astronomers have taken an educated guess that out of the millions of stars that surround SA, there will be one lying behind it to provide light that can be lensed. "It's definitely the way to go," says Farhad Yusef-Zadeh, an American astronomer quoted in the latest issue of *Astronomy*.

The astronomers will have to work in the infra-red region. Experts estimate that infra-red detectors will soon be sensitive enough to resolve images from as far away as SA.

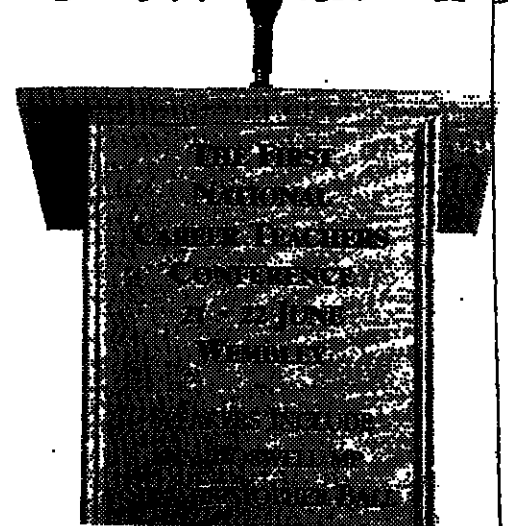
If SA turns out to possess upwards of a million solar masses, then it would be a big leap forward for black hole aficionados. The only black holes which astronomers have "seen" are small-fry in comparison, measuring perhaps up to 20 solar masses.

SA would then be a supermassive black hole. Such objects are thought to lie at the centres of some distant galaxies. Now one may also be sitting motionless at the heart of our own.



ANJANA AHUJA

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TES

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

Matthew Parris



Aids and HIV have been used by gays to claim public sympathy; but they should be claiming respect

Last week I went to see *My Night with Reg* in the West End. This is no place for a theatre review of a funny and accurate characterisation of six all-too-real gay stereotypes. It was brilliant. The plot, however, was lightweight: strung together on the emerging realisation that all six had enjoyed unsafe sex with an HIV-positive man. Subliminally, the play was being sold as "important" for that reason.

But it wasn't important for that reason. I actually became vaguely irritated with the Aids element. Something I have been wanting to write for years resurfaced. I keep shying away from its expression but it has resurfaced so often now that I think it cannot be whimsical or thoughtless, nor as harsh as it sounds, so — hopeful, though not confident, of being understood — I shall try to explain.

In the cause of any group, we should be very careful before we link the group in the popular imagination to tragedy or suffering. It can be an easy way of winning the immediate argument, yet subtly degrades the status and self-belief of those for whom we argue. I am unhappy about the embrace between gay activism and Aids.

If I had been a bolder or better-looking young man in the early 1980s, I would be dead now. I know very well I have been lucky. I mourn those who have died. I respect what Aids and HIV workers and charities do.

But Aids is an illness. It is a terrible illness, one of many, but should it be allowed to define or characterise the groups who may, if unlucky or careless, be susceptible? Should the appreciation of wine walk arm in arm, in our imaginations, with cirrhosis of the liver? Is heterosexual love to be celebrated by wearing ribbons for the tens of millions who have died of syphilis?

Being gay is not a viral condition. Homosexuality is not a disease. It has nothing to do with a disease. It is not, to me, even a misfortune. It should not be linked with sorrow, suffering or death; but with life, and happiness. Do we see the hundreds of millions who have died of syphilis as martyrs to heterosexual love? Does a good cause need martyrs?

The impetus to martyrdom has grown powerfully within the gay movement, and there are reasons. There was a justified fear that unless we made a fuss about HIV, a vast health issue might never get the urgent attention it needed. But there were also anxieties and angers which, although they found in HIV

an easy focus, arose from deeper internal insecurities. Any gay man will tell you that between giving a blood sample and receiving the results, a desperate conviction that the news must be bad keeps welling up, although logic tells him otherwise.

There is also self-pity. Scratch the skin of many militant gay men, and you will find it. And there is guilt: self-reproach (along with bisexuality) is downplayed in politically correct gay discourse, but few of us have escaped as far as fast from the morality of our childhood as we wish to believe.

This tangle of responses — anger, anxiety, guilt and self-pity — has converged upon the mythology of plague with a readiness which is almost macabre. We find in HIV both totem and rallying cry. In some gay community one is left with the impression that HIV is the distinguishing Service Medal of the movement. Aids is Victoria Cross. If you're not ill, or have lost no friends to Aids, you're not in the fullest sense gay. People recite with woe the list of names crossed from their address books.

Those who want to dignify homosexual love should resist the embrace of death

Homosexuality and Death meet in a grizzly embrace.

That the moral Right has taken up with relish that very embrace ought to trouble gay activists more. But there is a final, powerful reason why activists have welcomed the embrace: a reason cynically cognisant of modern PR wisdom. In our campaign to raise the dignity and status of same-sex love, Aids serves to short-cut the moral argument. "Pity us" is a powerful appeal. It can be sly, unnoticed, to "support us".

This is cheating. It frustrates those who want to make the morally conservative case against homosexual equality, and their frustration emerges in pseudo-scientific arguments against HIV spending, or health-awareness campaigns. This is dangerous ground, but we forced them onto it. Who, after all, but the most insensitive can refuse pity or support if death threatens millions? Hollywood, famously intolerant of homosexuality, easily accepts the Aids ribbon as a fashion accessory.

That is why in the 1950s and 1960s, authors who wished to introduce sympathetic homosexual roles into their work would square their audience by arranging suicide at the end. We used to kill ourselves. Now we die of Aids. Those of us who aim to raise the dignity and status of gay men should ask ourselves whether our crusade still needs to advance by clasp death to its bosom.

Bosnia is still a flashpoint, and all-out war could strain the Western alliance to breaking point

Conflicts of interest, interests of conflict

The whole world of peace and security ended on June 28, 1914, when the heir to the Austrian throne was murdered at Sarajevo. After a hundred years of substantial, though not unbroken peace, European civilisation was shattered by the First World War, and within a further 21 years the Second World War followed as the aftershock. Now Europe is once again trying to contain a Bosnian conflict. Because the containment has so far been relatively successful, the people of Europe are strangely complacent about the continuation of a war which has already lasted for four years and caused tens of thousands of casualties. They should not be. The war is again becoming more intense, and the future of the UN peacekeeping force is in serious doubt. Neither Britain nor France, the main providers of the UN troops, is prepared to see its forces become hostages or targets; if their casualties rise they will have to be withdrawn.

The peacekeeping force has done a great deal of good; it is indeed a classic example of the use of relatively small numbers of highly trained men to save lives. In some areas it has been possible to restart something like normal life inside safe zones. Even these are now threatened. Europe, as well as Bosnia, has every reason to be grateful for the work of these soldiers in dangerous and often harsh conditions. Famine, as well as many massacres, has been prevented by their presence. But they are a target, they cannot fight back and will not be able to stay. If the warring tribes of Bosnia are determined to fight to the finish, the UN does not have the capacity to prevent them.

The comparison with 1914 is not inappropriate. Now, as then, Sarajevo is on the fault-line of the ethnic and religious divisions of the Balkans. Now, as then, the European

powers are connected by ties of history and sympathy to different tribes in Bosnia. In 1914, the Serbs in Bosnia were the allies of Serbia, Russia and Greece; the Croats were the allies of Germany and Austria; the Bosnian Muslims were supported against the Serbian threat by Turkey. The pattern formed by these powers in 1914 has been repeated in the 1990s. The break-up of the old Yugoslavia was precipitated by German pressure for recognition of the independence of Croatia and Slovenia, which were Slav provinces of Austria-Hungary for many centuries. Serbia supports the Bosnian Serbs, though President Milosevic now wants peace. Russia supports Serbia. Turkey and the Islamic powers support the Bosnian Muslims; Greece supports the Orthodox Serbs. The traditional line-up of the religious and ethnic groups has not changed.

In 1914, France's alliance with Russia, and Britain's alliance with France, pulled both of them onto the Serbian side. That has not happened in the 1990s, because France is now allied to Germany rather than to Russia. British and French public opinion was rightly outraged by the Serbian aggression earlier in the war. Even so, British and French policy is pro-peace rather than pro-Bosnia. The British and French Governments do not want to see Russia or Greece humiliated, and fear an extension of the war if no settlement can be reached. Both the

Bosnian Muslims and Turkey have resented this attitude, and there has been criticism of Britain and France for what has been regarded as a negative leaning to the Serbian side. They both regard their attitude as a positive leaning to peace.

The United States was not involved in 1914. By the time the Americans joined the First World War, in 1917, the issues had broadened and changed, and nobody was thinking much about Serbs, Bosnians or archdukes any more. In the 1990s,

Serbia. Italy has cool relations with the German-supported state of Slovenia, and somewhat less than warm feelings for the Croats. Bosnia is far closer to Italy than it is to Britain, and Italy would certainly not welcome a knockout victory for either the Serbs or the Muslims. The Mediterranean countries — France, Italy and Spain — see the Bosnian war far more in terms of the future pressure from Islam than we do. The whole southern shore of the Mediterranean consists of Islamic countries, some of which, like Algeria, are very unstable. The politics of Islam have now become part of the domestic politics of the European Mediterranean countries, and are therefore part of the domestic politics of the European Union.

In diplomatic terms, one of the dangers of the war in Bosnia is that it will break the alliances. There are significant differences of attitude inside the European Union, with Germany and Austria being pro-Croat, and Greece pro-Serb. There are much greater differences inside NATO, with the United States and Turkey supporting the Bosnian Muslims. In Washington, the Republicans support the Bosnian Muslims even more strongly than the Administration itself.

If the peacekeeping force does have to be withdrawn, and the war becomes much more intense, the Bosnian Muslims would have support from the whole Islamic world and

from the United States, but the Bosnian Serbs would be able to look to Serbia, Russia and Greece. The Croats would be supported by Germany. Britain and France would be trying to maintain their position of neutrality. The West would be divided, but the Western system of alliances would be in danger. That is the threat to the EU and to NATO.

An even greater danger is that Bosnia is yet another battle on the 2,000-mile border between Russia and Islam. The Russian empire broke up after it was defeated in Afghanistan. The Russians are now fighting with great brutality to suppress Chechnya. A defeat in Bosnia would be regarded as intolerable by Russian nationalists. It could draw Russia back into the Slav area of Eastern Europe, following the tendency for Russian influence to be restored in parts of the former Soviet Union. It could lead to a new military regime in Russia, which is already a strong possibility. The Anglo-French policy towards Bosnia has differed from America's partly because we have given much greater weight to the Russian dimension of the war. Washington has throughout been more concerned with the issue of aggression.

The situation in 1914 differed greatly in one respect from that of the 1990s. German policy then was pro-war. The murder in Sarajevo became a pretext for German aggression against France and Russia. No outside power wants war today; all very much want peace. Nevertheless, the religious and ethnic fault-lines have not changed: Sarajevo is where the Catholic Germanic world, the Slav Orthodox world and the Islamic world meet. If the warring tribes now push out the peacekeeping force and fight to the finish, all these greater relationships will come under stress. So will Europe's relationship with the United States.

William Rees-Mogg

American policy has been concerned with two objectives: to support Bosnia as the victim of aggression, and to avoid any risk of American casualties. There are no American ground troops in Bosnia, and there are not going to be. America's sense of outrage against Serb aggression is certainly justifiable, but American policy has seemed to disregard the explosive pressure of the religious and ethnic differences of Bosnia and of the whole Balkan area.

Italy eventually joined the First World War on the side of Britain, France, Russia and therefore of

Bloated and bleating

Peter Riddell says MPs should be worrying about Parliament's impotence

What is wrong with Parliament is not sleaze or scandal, but loss of power and authority. The Tory backlash against the Nolan report is really an expression of frustration and resentment. There are echoes in Sir Anthony Grant's decision to retire because the Commons has "so little importance". Parliament is under threat, sovereign only in name. It is increasingly being challenged by European institutions, the courts, the media, the personal flaws of MPs themselves and by Opposition proposals for devolution. Most MPs have not adjusted, or even acknowledged their own weakness.

The resounding declarations of parliamentary supremacy during Thursday's debate sounded hollow given the public's doubts. The recent MORI poll for the Rowntree Reform Trust shows that the number who think that Parliament works well has dropped from 59 to 43 per cent since 1991, while the proportion who think it works badly has doubled to 30 per cent. The scale of outright abuse may be small, though not as small as Nolan's critics pretend, but as the report argued, perceptions matter. And they persist only because the Commons is widely seen as ineffective (the Lords' role is secondary).

People have a more favourable view of their own MPs. The poll shows no decline since 1991 in local people's satisfaction with the job their MP is doing for the constituency. MPs move more time now to redressing local grievances. Many say this welfare officer role is the most satisfying part of the work. One result of recent changes to sittings hours is that MPs spend more time than before in their constituencies.



The decline in the standing of the Commons, as opposed to individual MPs, is not because of a sudden growth in the power of the executive and the whips. Despite Michael Cockerell's colourful programme last night about the whips' black arts, their power has greatly diminished since the days of the much-feared David Margesson in the 1930s. Backbenchers are now more independent-minded and rebellious.

Frustrations have arisen because of new external challenges. Ministers are now more constrained by European law and the growth of judicial review. But MPs have failed to make the best of the new situation. The fashionable talk about increasing the input of national parliaments into European decisions sounds empty, given MPs' lack of interest so far. The Foreign Affairs Select Committee has

been a rare exception, regularly reviewing European developments. Other committees have usually not bothered. The European scrutiny committees have been taken over by zealots. It is no good MPs complaining about the intrusiveness of Brussels if they do not attempt to influence European legislation before decisions are reached.

The performance of select committees generally has been patchy. MPs of talent and energy prefer to be frontbenchers, however lowly the post. Committees have had occasional influence when looking at broad issues such as the Civil Service, the role of the Bank of England and pensions. But they have largely failed to monitor public

spending plans and the utilities. The Commons is also poor at considering legislation. Governments have always got their way on their central measures. What has declined is the willingness of MPs to focus on details. Many Bills leave the Commons requiring substantial amendment, as the measure introducing the jobseekers' allowance now does. The Child Support Agency is not the only testament to well-intentioned but defective legislation. Governments have resisted the extended use of special standing committees to hold hearings on detailed provisions before they are debated clause by clause.

The central role of the Commons is to sustain an executive in office, and to provide ministers. Party loyalty and self-preservation ensure the former. But the latter is now in question. There is, as Sir Terence Higgins said

on Thursday, a growing recruitment problem: how to attract people of the quality to become ministers. The range of new MPs is too narrow. Too many are full-time politicians with little outside experience. The Nolan report is worried by the growth of the full-time professional politician, and does not want to prevent them having outside business interests. For Alan Duncan to claim that Lord Nolan is risking the obliteration of the professional classes from the Commons is an absurd over-reaction. Rather, the report reflects public concern that MPs are benefiting financially from being in the Commons. Admittedly, this cannot be seen in isolation from pay. The £33,000-odd earned by a backbencher and £55,000 by a minister of state are too low. But rather than argue against disclosure of earnings from parliamentary activities, MPs should be candidly campaigning for higher pay.

MPs cannot, however, brush aside the failure of current regulation. Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, has a real dilemma today in deciding how to deal with Sir Jerry Wiggin. A grovelling apology might look insufficient, while the Privileges Committee, to which his case would normally be referred, has become so cumbersome as to be unworkable. There is an urgent need for streamlined machinery, assisted by a new parliamentary commissioner for standards, who, far from being a new quango or an outsider, would be appointed by the Commons and answerable to it.

The Nolan report is not a threat to Parliament, as some Tories allege, but rather a first, and only a first, step towards restoring public confidence. Far more important is action by MPs to improve scrutiny of the executive, legislation and Europe. If MPs want to be respected, they need to demonstrate they still matter. The parties too need to revive themselves to ensure a broader range of candidates. The parliamentary closed shop should be broken by bringing some ministers in from outside. The size both of the Government (85 ministers and whips in the Commons) and of the Commons itself (now 651, and rising after boundary changes) needs to be reduced. The Commons has become bloated and self-important.

Round two

FOR THE second volume of her memoirs — which, as the Diary revealed last week, will contain a chapter highly critical of John Major — Baroness Thatcher stuck with the same ghostwriters as for the first instalment. The chief advisers were Robin Harris, a member of the Downing Street policy unit during her last year in power, and John O'Sullivan, the editor of the right-wing American magazine the *National Review*. They took down her views — a comprehensive rebuttal of everything Major stands for," according to one insider.

The *Path to Power* — which is being dubbed the "The Flood Street Years" in memory of her Chelsea address while in opposition — reveals that Lady Thatcher still keenly misses weekends at Chequers. Consequently, many of the writing sessions took place in rural retreats owned by friends such as Lord Hesket, Mark Lennax-Boyd and Sir Archibald Hamilton. And on holidays in Switzerland the writing team came too. Sessions were also fitted in during her lecture tours in the United States. Grantham, where she once lived

above the corner shop, was not included in the itinerary, however. "She never mentions the place," says an associate. "America is her second home."

● Schoolboy howlers from Classroom Clangers, a new book compiled by two headmasters in the



... Comes out in May, attacks anything in sight, then disappears...

North East of England. One pupil wrote: "I've said goodbye to my boyfriend, now I'm looking to my adultery." Another defined "monotonous" as "being married to the same person for the rest of your life".

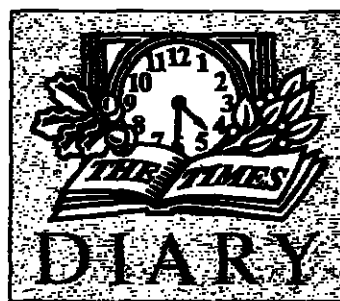
Looking down

THE HOUSE OF LORDS will be less other-worldly, after the Earl of Clancarty last week passed on to an even higher place. He was the founder of the Lords all-party study group on UFOs, and was convinced that aliens were among us.

He rallied against a succession of Governments for refusing to acknowledge the existence of UFOs, some of which he claimed were buried in the bowels of the Earth while others kept an eye on us from the Moon.

"The Earth was colonised by space travellers, and we are all descended from them," he once said. "We all came from different planets originally. That's why there are different races with different coloured skins."

● The hottest party at Cannes on Saturday was a Channel 4 bash on the beach for Blue Juice, starring Catherine Zeta Jones. A lost soul



weaved among the throng repeatedly asking "Has anyone seen my brother?" Eventually, after he had been ignored umpteenth times, someone asked who he was. "I'm Robert Keaton and my brother is Michael Keaton," he said proudly, referring to the star of *Batman*. Revellers looked him up and down and returned to their drinks.

Paige proof

ELAINE PAIGE sat at Andrew Lloyd Webber's right hand yesterday during The Really Useful Group's race-day VIP lunch at Newbury racecourse.

It was unfortunate, admitted the composer, that the racecard given to all his guests carried a prominent advertisement for his show *Sunset Boulevard* starring the leg-

endary Glenn Close. For Close played the role only in the United States.

Sir Andrew gallantly apologised for the mistake to his great friend and star of the show in London. "EP and I go back many years, but now I fear she'll never speak to me again."

Paige graciously accepted his apology, and then joked: "I'm talking to my solicitors."

● To promote its new image, the Design Council recently decided to mail a copy of its journal to industry movers and shakers. Believ-



Paige: unfazed

ing humble brown envelopes to be inadequate, it had some smashing new ones specially created. One problem: they were too small. The bump was hastily wrapped up in a strictly non-designer silver paper and string. A shame, because the obsolete envelopes had boasted: "The new Design Council believes that design isn't something you stick on afterwards."

Czech it out

CATWALKS are abuzz with talk of the extraordinary number of supermodels emerging from one tiny corner of the Czech Republic. Despite a national diet of fatty meat, dumplings and pickled cabbage and lungfuls of some of Europe's most polluted air, the "black triangle" of North Bohemia has produced a clutch of supermodels.

The home towns of Eva Herzigova (famous for the Wonderbra campaign), Daniela Pestova (the face of L'Oréal and Guess Jeans) and Tereza Maxova (regarded as the most glamorous model of all by the Czechs) are among the grimmest imaginable, with sulphur dioxide levels well above the World Health Organisation's safety limits, and water polluted by nitrates. But beauty blossoms, according to



Eva Herzigova: clean living

a feature in *Zest* magazine. "It's a mystery. I guess we are lucky ones — somehow we are not allergic to the pollution," admits Jana Hartlova, 23, a blonde and willowy model who left the smog of North Bohemia for Paris. "Or maybe it's all in our mixed blood — we're from the region where German and Slavic Europe meet."

Whatever the secret, it doesn't work for men. A highlight of the region's social calendar is the annual Mr Belly Contest, won last year by a gentleman boasting a 61-inch girth.

P.H.S

OBITUARIES

EVELYN LINCOLN

Evelyn Lincoln, former personal secretary to President John F. Kennedy, died in Washington on May 11 aged 85. She was born in Polk County, Nebraska, on June 25, 1909.

THE least fashionable of the various courtiers of Camelot, Evelyn Lincoln was nonetheless one of the most valuable members of President Kennedy's White House entourage. For a thousand days she sat in much closer proximity to him than any of the more colourful aides whom he brought with him to Washington. Nor was she in any sense an *ingénue*. Although she did not predate the Irish mafia from Massachusetts, she had been in Kennedy's service as long as Theodore Sorensen and much longer than, for example, Arthur Schlesinger Jr or Pierre Salinger. But the relationship between the two of them remained strictly a professional one — even when they were alone it was always "Miz Lincoln" and "Mr President".

They were together for more than ten years, from the very beginning of John Fitzgerald Kennedy's career in the Senate in January 1953 until November 22, 1963, when Evelyn Lincoln was riding in a bus behind the President's car in Dallas. It had been a remarkably successful working partnership. Lincoln was efficient, highly intelligent and a confidante whose devotion to her boss and his ambitions was limitless. Within weeks of their meeting, when Kennedy was a green senatorial candidate and she was a 43-year-old congressional aide on the lookout for a politician with White House possibilities, she made herself indispensable. There was not much about JFK that Lincoln did not know. In addition to her official duties, she was also required to telephone women — be they call-girls or film stars — to ask for dates on his behalf. She never appears to have resented this side of her work — even if, many years later, she was to estimate (probably exaggeratedly) that "half my time was spent" fielding calls from women trying to keep tabs on the President.

And certainly her role in this regard



Evelyn Lincoln with President Kennedy and his son John at the White House

provided her with exclusive knowledge. She always claimed to be one of the first to know that Kennedy's romance with Jacqueline Bouvier was serious. She had reached her own conclusions when the then junior senator from Massachusetts departed from his normal practice of getting her to make his calls and started phoning the then *Washington Times-Herald* photographer himself.

Evelyn Lincoln, however, never got on particularly well with Jacqueline Kennedy and, after the latter's death, was to be found accusing her on television of having conducted her own affairs from the private quarters in the White House. There was no doubt,

however, of her devotion to her former boss. Twice a year she would place three red roses on his grave in Arlington National Cemetery — a tribute all the more striking coming from a woman whose nature had always been undemonstrative.

For the 34 months of JFK's reign Evelyn Lincoln's office — next to the President's, and equipped with a bowl of sweets and a humidor of gift cigars not up to presidential standards — was a nerve centre of the White House. Kennedy's Vice-President, Lyndon Johnson, she later revealed, used to cut through her office to give White House aides the false impression that he had been closeted with the President.

She was a secretarial magpie, saving virtually every scrap of paper that crossed Kennedy's desk, and even rummaging in wastebaskets for his doodles and jottings. After his death she donated everything she had collected to the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston, of which she was one of the seven original incorporators. The doodles have since become one of the most popular exhibits.

Evelyn Norton, the daughter of a Nebraska congressman (curiously, Kennedy's speechwriter, Theodore Sorensen, came from that state too), was a graduate of Washington's George Washington University, where she met her husband, Harold Lincoln. She studied law for two years before going to work on Capitol Hill for an obscure congressman from Georgia.

Made redundant by Mrs Kennedy immediately after the assassination, she was also peremptorily removed by LBJ from her former key position in the White House. She continued to work there, though, for a period while never hiding her disdain for Kennedy's successor. She later went so far as to claim that her former boss had told her before the trip to Dallas that he intended to dump Lyndon Johnson from the Democratic ticket in 1964.

When Johnson himself was elected by a landslide in that election, Lincoln left Washington to write the first of her two volumes of memoirs. She later returned to Capitol Hill as a secretary from 1967 to 1973, always keeping her eye open for another presidential hopeful.

In 1982 Lincoln thought she had finally found what she was looking for in the person of Senator Gary Hart of Colorado, for whom she campaigned in both his bids for the Democratic nomination. "The people who loved John Kennedy should love Gary Hart," she said. Ironically, it was Hart's capacity to love not wisely but too often that brought him down — the very fall which Lincoln had covered up so assiduously for her idol, Kennedy.

She is survived by her husband Abe, a lawyer who was himself for many years a staffer on Capitol Hill.

John Rich, CMG, former British Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, 1980-85, and Switzerland, 1985-88, died from cancer on May 13 aged 66. He was born on June 29, 1928.

AS A young diplomat in the early 1960s John Rich was a member of the Foreign Office team which tried to fulfil the dream of the then Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan, by securing Britain's entry into the Common Market. The Brussels talks broke down when President de Gaulle delivered his unequivocal "Non!" — but not before Rich had managed to write his name into this short chapter of British history. One of his tasks had been to translate the Treaty of Rome into a working English version for Whitehall. He did it so well that the "Rich translation" became the accepted text for three decades.

Suddenly left high and dry without a post when the talks collapsed, Rich was drafted as head of chancery to the British Political Residency in Bahrain, where again he carved out a small niche of his own. When inter-ethnic fighting erupted among expatriate oil workers on the island of Das, he summoned a tank landing craft *HMS Striker*, which by chance was under the command of an old schoolfriend, and asked it to stand by offshore. He liked to claim afterwards to have been one of the last British diplomats to solve a problem by sending in the traditional gunboat.

Yet John Roland Rich was far from belonging to the traditional mould of imperial emissary. Born in Durham, he was the son of a lecturer at Durham University who was later to become the first Professor of Education at Hull. Sent to school at Sedburgh, he became head of his house — the same house later to be led by England's present rugby captain, Will Carling, which would whimsically refer to Will Carling as "my successor".

From Sedburgh he went to Clare College, Cambridge, as



a foundation exhibitor to read modern languages. He also rowed for the college and was a leading light in founding the university's branch of the United Nations Association.

First posted to the Royal Artillery on National Service, Rich was transferred to the Intelligence Corps on being commissioned and was sent to a field security unit in Trieste. He also won some distinction by scoring "over 100 per cent" on a photo-intelligence course. One of the tests involved identifying signal boxes in a marshalling yard. A lifelong steam train enthusiast, Rich recognised the yard and was able to point to one box that even the examiners had missed.

Already accepted for the Diplomatic Service on leaving Cambridge, he joined the Foreign Office in King Charles Street in 1951. His first overseas posting two years later was to Addis Ababa, where he met his wife Rosemary — who had arrived as a young teacher at the English school there.

He subsequently served in Stockholm, 1956-59, Bahrain, 1963-66, Prague, 1969-72, then later two years as a Foreign Service Inspector in Bonn. Commercial Counsellor in Bonn, 1974-78, Europe and commerce were the two areas in which he specialised and the rebelling of British trade with Germany during his time in Bonn may have played its part in his appointment as CMG in 1978.

There followed two years as Consul-General in Montreal, 1976-80, before his two postings as an Ambassador — to Czechoslovakia and Switzerland. He took great satisfaction from the "Velvet Revolution" in Prague, which saw the ending of communism there in 1989, a year after he had retired at the age of 60.

He accepted a number of part-time jobs in his retirement, including that of political adviser to the National Care Homes Association. Retaining close links with Whitehall, he acted as consultant to the government-sponsored "Know-How" Fund, advising former Stalinist countries (Estonia and Slovakia in Rich's case) on establishing new democratic systems. He also became a "scrutiner" or "weeder", checking Foreign Office papers for sensitive material before they are made available at the Public Record Office.

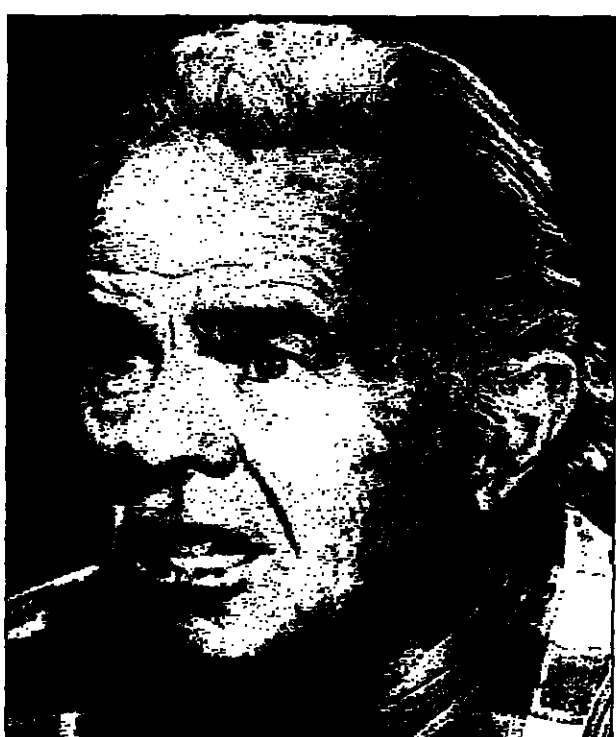
A comfortably well-built, pipe-smoking man with a twinkle in his eye and no pretensions, John Rich made many friends and had few enemies. His *modus operandi* as an ambassador included travelling widely and meeting people — a job for which his quiet charm had well equipped him.

He learnt Czech while based in Prague and was gratified on leaving to be presented with a cut-glass vase by locally employed Czechs and Slovaks at the embassy. It remained one of his most treasured memorabilia.

He was also a man of surprising interests, including botany and especially wild orchids. When in Switzerland he enlarged and enhanced his reputation during his long alpine walks by discovering a number of species which were previously unknown to the Swiss authorities. In later years he also took part in a survey on the wild orchids growing in Surrey. But John Rich had to give up most of his activities early this year when he fell victim to cancer. He is survived by his wife, their daughter and two sons.

ELISHA COOK JR

Elisha Cook Jr, Hollywood character actor, died in Big Pine, California, on May 18 aged 92. He was born in San Francisco in 1902.



MODESTLY, Elisha Cook once claimed to have appeared in more "B-for-bomb" turkeys than any other actor. It may have been true, but it disguised the fact that Cook gave memorable performances in a string of films that have become enduring classics. Playing the villain in more than a hundred films, his most notable role was as "Wilmer the gunsel," Sydney Greenstreet's bodyguard in John Huston's 1941 version of *The Maltese Falcon*, in which the intensity of his acting and his handling of the Dashiell Hammett dialogue helped to lift the film from its intended "B" status to lasting fame.

Cook was the last survivor of *The Maltese Falcon* cast, which included Humphrey Bogart, Peter Lorre and Mary Astor, and his portrayal of the psychotic baby-faced killer made him a cult figure to generations of filmgoers.

He was never a star. He was, in fact, typecast to play villains. "I played rats, pimps, informers, hoodlums and communists," he once recalled. The problem was that he played them so well that no one ever thought of casting him in any other type of role.

And so, after his success in *The Maltese Falcon* he found himself playing the drug-addicted jazz drummer in *Phantom Lady* (1944), the lovesick loser forced to drink poison in *The Big Sleep* (1946), the belligerent homesteader shot down in the mud by Jack

Palance in *Shane* (1953), and the satanic apartment manager in *Rosemary's Baby* (1968).

"I didn't have the privilege of reading scripts," Cook once recalled. "Guys called me up and said, 'You're going to work tomorrow.' But call they did. He was rarely out of work, and became something of a lucky charm in Hollywood because of the apparent coincidence that films he appeared in had a habit of creating cinematic legends.

In 1936 he was in Judy Garland's first film, *Pigskin Parade*, and in 1952 acted with Marilyn Monroe in *Don't Bother to Knock*, her first starring role. He was also the

henpecked race-track teller in Stanley Kubrick's first commercial feature, *The Killers* (1956).

Though born on the West Coast, Cook grew up in Chicago and became an itinerant actor at an early age, playing with a travelling repertory company in the eastern and midwestern states. His big opportunity came when Eugene O'Neill picked him to play the juvenile lead in *Ah, Wilderness*, which ran on Broadway for two years, after which he went to Hollywood. Elisha Cook is believed to have been married at least twice, but leaves no immediate survivors.

PROFESSOR SIEGFRIED STEIN

Professor Siegfried Stein, Hebrew scholar, died on April 29 aged 85. He was born on June 6, 1909.

THE death of Siegfried Stein is a reminder of the extent to which the intellectual life of this country was enriched, in many fields, by Hitler's determination to eliminate German Jewry. Stein's father was employed in one of the major Jewish business houses in Berlin, and the choice of the foreman Siegfried for his only child reflected the sense of integration with German culture felt by many German Jews at the beginning of this century.

The son's name was to become a source of embarrassment to him, and he eventually dropped it in favour of its synagogal equivalent, Joshua. The family was firmly rooted in Jewish tradition, and Stein, who had early in life espoused Zionist ideals, decided to emigrate. But the extent to which he still felt himself culturally comfortable, if not at home, in Germany, is reflected in the subject of his thesis.

This was a study of the portrayal of heretics in Middle High German literature, 1050-1250, and it earned him a PhD at Heidelberg in 1933, by which time there were no longer any career prospects for Jews in the German universities.

In order to build on his Jewish education he entered the great *Hochschule* for Jewish studies in Berlin, whose faculty included some of the most distinguished Jewish scholars of the time. Stein was, at the same time, teaching in various Jewish schools in Berlin. He had no inclination towards entering the rabbinate, but he received qualifications from the *Hochschule* in 1935, and forthwith departed for England.

He was more fortunate than many academic refugees in that he secured, almost immediately, a part-time post at University College London, and this enabled him, despite

the exigencies of his income, to get his parents out of Berlin before the outbreak of war.

Some of the war years he spent in Oxford but in 1945 his post at University College London became full-time. In due course his scholarly standing was recognised by his appointment as reader and ultimately, in 1963, professor. In 1957 he published a stimulating article comparing the *haggadah*, or text read to accompany the family dinner celebrating the night of Passover, with the Greco-Roman symposium literature reflected in Athenaeus's *Deipnosophistae*.

He also published several articles on Jewish financial activities in antiquity, the Middle Ages, and up to the 17th century, with a view to producing a full-scale study of the subject, but this remained unwritten. In the early post-war years heavy teaching loads were the norm in language, literature and history departments, except for the largest, in nearly all British universities, and lecturers often had to cover a wider spectrum than they would have wished within their own subject. For Stein his own research always took second place to teaching responsibilities and the frustration of the scholarship of others. A notable example of the latter was the time that he invested in editing a festschrift presented to Alexander Altmann.

The two decades following 1945 were a period of substantial expansion in British universities, through an input of government money, particularly in the field of Oriental Studies. Whilst this enabled Stein to begin extending his department from what had been at best a 1½-man team, two other factors coincided. The first was the availability, through the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, of funds contributed by way of moral reparation by successive German governments; and the second was the circum-

stance that University College readily agreed to provide an academic home for the Institute of Jewish Studies that Alexander Altmann had founded in Manchester when, in 1959, he left to take up a chair in the United States. Stein exploited these opportunities to the full, and was for a time director of the institute as well as being head of the department, the name of which (previously Hebrew) became Hebrew and Jewish studies.

The colleagues whom he recruited, some of them already established, others promising young scholars, constituted a significant nucleus on the academic map. In particular, these included the late Professor J.G. Weiss, who gained an international reputation for his studies of 18th and 19th-century Hasidism; and Chimen Abramsky, whose interests in Jewish social and economic integration in various parts of Europe after the French Revolution

neatly complemented those of Weiss.

Stein retired in 1974 to settle in Israel, and the eminence of those who attended his retirement dinner indicated the esteem and affection in which he was held. Sadly, for a number of years preceding his death he had been rendered oblivious of his surroundings by illness.

He married Rachel Werblowsky, who survives him, together with a daughter and two sons.

PROFESSOR KENNETH SIMMONDS

Kenneth Simmonds, Professor of International Law in the University of London, 1976-92, died on April 30 aged 67. He was born on November 11, 1927.



AN ACADEMIC lawyer bred in the common law tradition, Kenneth Simmonds had a rare quality which enabled him to be totally at ease with the concepts of other legal systems. Indeed, in his capacity, first as assistant director and then as director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, he foresaw the necessity of establishing close links with European — and in particular French — lawyers. To his academic qualities he added a warm and friendly personality which helped greatly in establishing and maintaining these international contacts.

Kenneth Royston Simmonds was born in Watford and educated at Watford Grammar School, where he was hurt during an air raid while on firewatch on the roof of the school during the Second World War and subsequently was awarded a medal for his bravery. He did his National Service in the RAF, obtaining a commission and participating in flying operations during the Berlin airlift.

He went on to read law at Exeter College, Oxford, where

had won a scholarship in history. He had originally intended to read that subject but became fascinated by law and, especially, international law. After taking his degree and completing a PhD at Oxford, he taught at the University College of Wales at Aberystwyth, moving on as a lecturer to the University of Liverpool, then as a senior lecturer at the Queen's University of Belfast, at the University of Kent and finally at Queen Mary and Westfield College, London, where he was Professor of International Law until his retirement in 1992.

In 1963 he became assistant director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, becoming director

in 1965. During the next ten years, under the chairmanship of Lord Denning, he accomplished a task which was all the more valuable, since during his term of office Britain was joining the European Community. The International Association of Legal Science was to recognise his services by making him its president in 1975-76.

He returned to teaching and was from 1980 to 1984 Dean of the Faculty of Law of Queen Mary College in London. He specialised in the law of the sea and in community law, and his publications in the field were numerous. He wrote many opinions and participated in several arbitrations, the most notable being the Beagle Channel arbitration and the Dubai-Qatar arbitrations. At various times he lectured in Canada, the United States and Belgium.

Despite his sense of humour and his bonhomie, he believed in standing up for what he thought was right and never hesitated to do so. A much-travelled man, he loved good food.

He was a Commander of the Order of Merit of Germany, a Chevalier of the French Order of Merit and an officer of the Ordre des Palmes Académiques.

He married Gloria Tatchell in 1958. He is survived by his wife and two children.

The origins of Venice uncovered

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE origins of Venice in the early Middle Ages have been documented by a series of radiocarbon dates from Oxford University. They confirm the tradition that the Venetian state was founded by refugees fleeing from the Lombard occupation of the mainland in the late sixth century and settling on the islands of the lagoon.

Six dates from borings below the church of San Lorenzo di Ammiana, near Torcello, "indicate an age for human activity in the second half of the sixth century and seventh century", according to the journal *Archaeometry*. "It well predates the time when Rialto, the future

seat in AD 809-811." The church itself has remains going back to the ninth century, with mosaics of the twelfth, although the present building is of Renaissance date.

Another isolated church, San Francesco del Deserto, on an island northeast of the centre of Venice, has yielded even earlier remains.

Part of a boat, with oak ribs and a hewnwood hull tied together with flexible small branches, was found and dated to the fifth century AD. Radiocarbon dates from the Oxford AMS system suggested that it was built between AD 425 and 550: pegs from the boat and reeds underlying it yielded ages identical to

those from two poles driven into the mud, which "may represent the remains of a wooden enclosure or simple wharf built along the edge of a canal".

The first early canal in the vicinity of the Piazza San Marco has also been detected: excavations behind Jacopo Sansovino's famous sixteenth-century Biblioteca Marciana yielded five dates of the seventh and eighth centuries. "The associated sediment is canal fill: this sheds new light on the early topography of the area, since until now no canal was known in this part of San Marco," the journal reports.

A group of deer cores in front of the Basilica di San

Marco, in the Piazza and Piazzetta, have shown that the lagoon islands built up rapidly towards the end of the Ice Age, perhaps as a result of the melting of the Alpine glaciers, although at this time the Adriatic coastline was miles further south and the peat deposits show no evidence of seawater in the vicinity.

The lagoon itself existed five thousand years ago, as did the barrier of the Lido. The geo-archaeology of Venice seems to have been as dynamic and eventful as La Serenissima's subsequent history.

Source: *Archaeometry* 34: 349; 37: 211-212.

THE WAR. THE RELIEF OF MAFKING.

So general had become the confidence in the accuracy of the Reuters telegram announcing the relief of Mafeking that the anxiety for official news had largely subsided by yesterday. When the Colonial Office became acquainted with the official confirmation, orders were issued to hoist the national flag, and the Union Jack was run up to the head of a recently-erected flagstaff on the Whitehall front of the building.

Hitherto the Government offices had made no display, but this was taken as a signal, and flags were soon flying from the Home Office, the Local Government Board, the Treasury, and the Privy Council offices.

At the India Office workmen were engaged in fixing a gigantic flagstaff for the Queen's birthday, and though the work was by no means finished the example of the other departments was followed. At the War Office, too, the Union Jack was hoisted, and the crowd in Pall-mall, realising the significance of the incident, cheered with a will. The inquiry lobbies were full, and the people there took up the cheer and a spirited rendering of the National Anthem and "He's a Jolly Good

ON THIS DAY

May 22, 1900



Maffick, verb: "A journalistic word used to designate the extravagant behaviour of the London crowds on the relief of Mafeking (OED). There were ugly scenes at Wimbledon outside the house of the journalist W.T. Stead, who suffered for his pro-Boer attitude.

Fellow. . . Soon Pall-mall was thronged, but it was easy to see that the official news created less surprise than satisfaction.

COL. BADEN-POWELL PROMOTED. We are informed by the War Office that the Queen has approved the promotion of Colonel R.S.S. Baden-Powell to Major-General.

At the residence of Mrs. Baden-Powell it was ascertained late yesterday afternoon that she had received no direct news, but had heard the official tidings and also of the promotion bestowed upon her son. The front of the house was gaily decorated with flags

and bunting as well as a device formed of fairy lamps into the initials "B.-P." and the word "Mafeking," which were lighted up at dusk. Streams of carriages brought people anxious to renew the congratulations which followed the unofficial news, and an enthusiastic crowd which occupied the roadway cheered in concert from time to time, a band of youthful students leading the demonstration.

In many places in the country rejoicings over the relief of Mafeking were continued yesterday, business being suspended, a holiday being given to the school children, and collections being taken in aid of Lady Georgiana Curzon's fund.

WIMBLEDON. — After the relief of Mafeking had been celebrated at Wimbledon by a torchlight procession on Saturday night a crowd marched to Cambridge-house, Wimbledon-park-road, the residence of Mr. W.T. Stead, and in the early hours of Sunday morning invaded the grounds and did much damage to the flower-beds and conservatory windows. The demonstrators remained a considerable time hooting, yelling, ringing bells, and generally making a great disturbance. During the celebrations the Union Jack at the Wimbledon Liberal Club was torn down and some of the windows of the building were smashed.

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Where are the best sportsmen in the land raised?

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY MAY 22 1995



Michael Lynagh, left, the Australian captain, leads Jason Little, centre, and Matthew Kini during a World Cup training session in Stellenbosch yesterday. Australia, the champions, are favourites

'We are now one of the leading nations and we must not slip'

England ready for giant step

WHO would have dreamed the world of rugby union could have moved so quickly? Eight years ago, when I played in my first World Cup, it was like a leap in the dark for all of us. Now the pace changes almost daily and the alliance formed last week by the three southern-hemisphere nations, seven days before the third World Cup begins here in South Africa, ensures another step forward.

We, England's players and administrators, were forewarned of this when we toured in South Africa a year ago. That tour opened the eyes of those who run the game in the northern hemisphere and if we are going to compete on the same plane as Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, we will have to follow suit.

There is no question of turning back or breaking away. I believe that this is something England's leading players came to terms with as long ago as 1988, when we toured in Australia — several of us, Dean Richards, Peter Winterbottom, Brian Moore, Will Carling, sat down after that tour and decided that there was no reason why we should not compete at the level of the Australians.

All of us, except Will, had played in the 1987 World Cup, which was driven by Australia and New Zealand. The northern hemisphere countries, with the exception of France, had not been supportive of the tournament and knew little about what to expect; there had been no qualification process, the competing countries consisted of those who were lucky enough to receive an

invitation to play in it.

But even in 1991, when the World Cup really took off during the staging of the second tournament in Britain and France, we were still slightly in awe of the southern-hemisphere countries. The first match, against New Zealand at Twickenham, showed that and so did the final which we lost to Australia. But that event did provide an enormous boost for rugby, it lifted the game onto the public stage like nothing had done before.

Now we are approaching the third tournament, with a proper qualification process — teams like Andorra,



Rob Andrew, England stand-off, reports from a confident World Cup training camp in Durban

Germany, Lithuania have been involved — but the driving forces are the same with the difference that England, and perhaps France, are up there too. We believe we have earned the right to occupy the same level but the sad thing is that the rest of the world has not been able to keep up. The five countries which have all, at one time or another, been tipped as likely winners in Ellis Park, Johannesburg, next month have opened a gap and the signs are that the gap will get wider.

Those five are the countries with the resources, the players and stadia, the commercial backing and we saw last week the resolve of the southern hemisphere to maintain their primacy. They have formed a company to control the game at international and provin-

cial level in this part of the world and it is not a question whether England decide to go with them — they must. I think the public, never mind the players, will demand that.

That is the stage the game has arrived at. Words like amateur or professional do not come into it at the moment. It is a matter of accepting the progress the game is making and ensuring we are in a position to influence it, on and off the pitch. As it happens I think we are heading rapidly towards the situation which Australia and New Zealand have reached, of player contracts, but I do not believe they

will be exclusive of people earning a living outside the game. There is not enough money below representative level for players to sustain a career from rugby alone.

The England squad representatives have worked hard to create a good commercial atmosphere and, at last, we are getting somewhere. Although I hope to carry on for another year or two, it is not my generation of players who will benefit from that work but the next one and there are signs now that those players will be able to work alongside the Rugby Football Union.

If that proves to be the case, then it is possible that some players of my generation may consider becoming involved in rugby administration but only if they believe there is unity about the approach to the future. That really is the point as we prepare for the 1995 World Cup: whether we win the tournament or not we are regarded now as one of the world's leading nations and we must not slip from that position.

Conceivably there will be a problem with the other unions because they have not the physical or economic resources that we have, yet our concern has to be with England. If we succeed, and it is a big if, then rugby union will receive another tremendous boost: the vital thing is that the players here believe they are good enough.

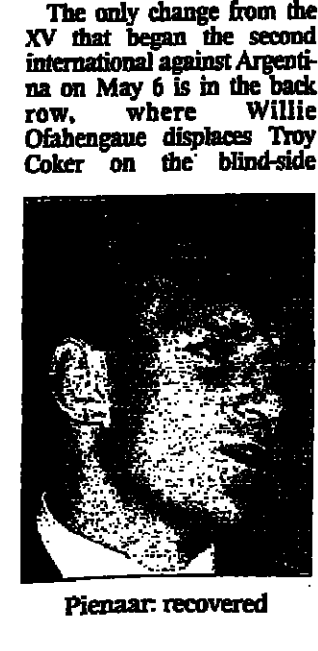
□ Rob Andrew was talking to David Hands

Horan misses World Cup opener

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, IN DURBAN

AUSTRALIA will start their defence of the Webb Ellis trophy with eight of the players who won it four years ago when the World Cup began in Cape Town on Thursday. Five forwards and three backs played at Twickenham in the 12-6 win over England in 1991, which gives them a solid core of experience against the host nation, South Africa.

Bob Dwyer, the coach, has resisted the temptation to bring back Tim Horan at the first opportunity, preferring to stay with the midfield combination that played well in the two recent internationals against Argentina and, in particular, the centre pairing of Jason Little and Daniel Herbert that has been outstanding this season for Queensland.



Pienaar: recovered

flank. Dan Crowley is given another opportunity at loose-head prop, though Tony Daly's claims to reinstatement are growing louder by the day.

After a week of worry over

Francois Pienaar's hamstring, the South Africa captain will lead his side at Newlands, though there are four changes from the XV that defeated Western Samoa in April. The surprise is that Hennie le Roux, the stand-off half on tour in Britain last autumn, retains his place in the centre. The selection of Joel Stranksy at stand-off gives South Africa three goalkickers.

Ironically, the omission of Gavin Johnson leaves them without the player who scored a record 28 points in the 60-8 win over Samoa. Johnson gives way at full back to the exciting Andre Joubert, who was injured a month ago.

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Spaniard triumphs in tense finale

Ballesteros's short play wins hearts of home audience

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FROM MEL WEBB IN MADRID

ANOTHER jewel in a gem-encrusted crown was set by Severiano Ballesteros when he claimed his 55th PGA European Tour victory, and his 12nd worldwide, by winning the Spanish Open title for the first time for ten years at Club de Campo yesterday.

Ballesteros had a closing 71 for a total of 274, 14 under par, to beat his compatriots, José Rivero and Ignacio Garrido, by two strokes.

Gordon Brand Jr and Peter Baker were the leading Britons in joint fourth place a shot further back. It was Ballesteros's second win in a month after his victory in the Perrier Four-Ball event in partnership with José María Olazábal in April.

This was Ballesteros's third Spanish Open win, but he had never won his national title in his country's capital. The people of Madrid turned out in their thousands to urge him on, and he was visibly lifted by the reception he was given by the surging masses who walked at his side.

"I aged five years out there

today," he said. "I knew I wasn't playing that well, and I had to convince myself out on the course that I had to make the best of what I had. The support I got out there was fantastic, but it took patience and determination for me to win the tournament."

It seemed that, after the third round, which had ended with Brand Jr four and Ballesteros three ahead of the pursuing pack, there was almost no contest left to fight. It

looked likely then that the winner would be one of the two runaway leaders. Sure enough, that is the way it ended, but there were more challenges on this closing day than appeared possible at its start.

At various times during a steamy Spanish afternoon six men held or shared the lead on a day that was ultimately more memorable for its excitement than for the quality of the golf. Ballesteros made a terrible start, bogeying the first two holes, at which point Brand led by three shots.

Ballesteros appeared to be digging a pit for himself from which there could be no escape when he dropped yet another shot on the 3rd but he was let off the hook by Brand, who also produced a bogey on the hole.

From there on it was a dogfight, with Baker, Rivero, Garrido and Peter Mitchell at times pushing themselves to the top of the leaderboard alongside Brand and Ballesteros.

It was gritty rather than pretty, but the later stages of the day could not have contained more tension had the shots been choreographed, the action scripted.

It is a measure of Ballesteros's greatness that he has achieved so much with driving that has always been a thing of only occasional efficiency, and on this final day of the tournament he was at best wayward off the tee. But there was majesty in some of his iron play and his work on and around the greens was as sharp as a tack.

Ballesteros settled rapidly after his three-bogey start, and he birdied the 4th. With his short irons singing sweetly he proceeded to the turn in 38, without further mishap, then birdied the 12th with a 20-foot putt.

He did not take the outright lead until he birdied the 15th, which he had four-putted on the first day.

This time there was no such prodigious waste, an exquisitely floated sand-wedge leaving him less than five feet from the pin.

Brand was a disappointed man after a 75, ten shots worse than the sparkling round he had produced on Saturday. "I didn't play that badly, I just couldn't do anything on the greens," he said.

"It just became harder and harder for me out there. I don't know what happened, really," he added. What happened to him, among other things, was that he came up against the might of Severiano Ballesteros on a day that was ruled by his unrelenting dominance. "It was written on that crucial 15th hole."

"It is there that I won, I think," Ballesteros said. "I knew Rivero and Garrido had finished on 12 under, so after that it was a matter of keeping an eye on Gordon Brand and making sure I didn't beat myself." There was never any chance of that.

LEADING FINAL ROUND SCORES (GB and Ireland shaded)

274: S Ballesteros (ESP)	70, 67, 66, 71, 278
279: J Rivero (ESP)	69, 71, 68, 71
280: I Garrido (ESP)	67, 66, 74, 77
281: P Baker (GB)	72, 68, 68, 71
282: G Brand Jr (GB)	71, 68, 65, 75
283: R Rivero (ESP)	70, 69, 69, 71
284: D Mitchell (GB)	67, 72, 72, 76
285: G Garrido (ESP)	70, 69, 70, 70
286: J Townsend (GB)	69, 67, 71, 72
287: J Robinson (GB)	70, 74, 67, 74
288: M Brand (GB)	70, 68, 68, 74
289: M Molesworth (GB)	73, 71, 68, 74
290: J Packer (GB)	72, 70, 69, 69
291: F Fletcher (GB)	71, 70, 69, 69
292: M Molesworth (GB)	71, 70, 71, 72
293: J Packer (GB)	71, 70, 71, 72
294: R McEneaney (GB)	72, 68, 71, 71
295: M Molesworth (GB)	72, 68, 71, 71
296: S Ballesteros (ESP)	70, 67, 66, 71
297: J Robinson (GB)	70, 67, 66, 71
298: M Brand (GB)	70, 67, 66, 71
299: J Packer (GB)	70, 67, 66, 71
300: R McEneaney (GB)	70, 67, 66, 71

Singh holds lead into final round

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

VIJAY SINGH moved into a one-stroke lead after 54 holes in the Buick Classic on Saturday with a four-under-par round of 67. Bobby Wadkins lost a chance to share the lead going into the final round at the Westchester Country Club in Harrison, New York, when he dropped a shot on the par-five final hole. He finished with a 69 for a six-under-par 207 after three rounds.

Nick Faldo was lying in joint third place a further shot behind after his round of 68. The three-time winner of the British Open and two-time Masters champion is tied with Bruce Fleischer, who had a 69.

The best round of the day belonged to Jim McGovern, who had a hole-in-one at the 131-yard sixth. His 65 put him in a group of players just behind the leaders on 209 going into the final round of the \$1.2 million (£780,000) tournament.

Singh, 32, from Fiji, who

won this title two years ago but was prevented from defending it last year because of a back injury, had five birdies and one bogey in his round. The dropped shot came on the 333-yard, par-4 seventh hole, when he two-putted from four feet.

"That was the only green I missed all day," Singh said afterwards. "My first nine holes were really good. Having won here gives me some great confidence. I know the course and I know what it takes to win - staying on the fairways and out of the rough."

Singh, who took two weeks off to prepare for this tournament, joined the PGA Tour in 1993. The Buick victory, worth \$210,000, helped to earn him the rookie-of-the-year award and a total of \$657,831.

He was hampered by back problems last year and competed in only 21 tournaments. "I'm in top shape now," he said. "No more back problems and, hopefully, no more putting problems."

"I gave up the long putter in the final round of the Greater Greensboro Open and am using a brand new one this week. Now that I'm the lead I am going to continue to be aggressive tomorrow. You can't be defensive on a tough course like this."

Ernie Els, the reigning US Open champion, bogeyed two of his final four holes and finished with a 75. He stands on 212, six shots off the lead and one ahead of defending Lee Janzen, the defending Buick champion, who had a 69 on Saturday.



Faldo: lying joint third



Lora Fairclough displays the steely resolve that took her to success in the Ford Classic at Chart Hills in Kent

Determination wins for Fairclough

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

WHEN the fanatical and simply curious gathered on the undulations of the Chart Hills Club in Biddenden, Kent, yesterday, it was Laura Davies, the World No 1 from West Byfleet, Surrey, who they followed in droves and willed to victory. That it was Lora Fairclough, the lesser known, less exalted Briton from Adlington, Lancashire, who won the Ford Classic by one shot from Florence Descamps, of Belgium, will have proved a barely disguisable disappointment.

It should not have. While Davies grabs the headlines for her unconventional globe-trotting lifestyle and prodigious tee shots, Fairclough prefers the relative anonymity of home and is a widely respected member of the American Express European Tour and Europe Solheim Cup team. Thus, there were no overwhelming scenes of adulation for her, or post-tournament

tales of social excess; just polite applause for her quiet resolve and steely composure in a thoroughly deserved win, only the second in her four years as a professional.

"I might have looked calm but I was really quite nervous," she said. "I haven't played much over the last six or seven months so I am delighted."

Fairclough, 25, began the day a shot behind Descamps but swiftly made up the ground, and then stretched two shots clear, with three birdies in the opening five holes. When Descamps bogeyed the par four 9th, she trailed by three and appeared to be drifting out of contention.

Davies was already making inroads into her overnight five-stroke deficit. After a typically flamboyant five-under-par 67 on Saturday, which complemented her shrewd and substantial 9-2 bet on Everton to win the FA Cup, she promptly eagled the first. A series of pars blunted any

impending charge and a missed opportunity on the 10th added further frustration. A double bogey seven at the 12th effectively ruined her hopes of a third victory this season, to go with her two in the United States. But another eagle at the 444yd 16th kept the huge gallery entertained. It also helped secure a share of fourth place and an eighth top-six finish from ten starts this season. Fairclough possesses similar determination. At the 10th, when her drive landed in one of the 138 bunkers that Nick Faldo, its designer, has installed, she played an admirable four iron recovery shot that finished just short of the green.

A bump-and-run effort to 12ft and a courageous putt saved par, protected her three-shot lead and provoked a rare outburst of emotion - a double punch, aimed at the turf, of relief and delight.

Ahead of Fairclough, Descamps and Dale Reid, of Scotland, Carin Hjalmarsson,

of Sweden had infiltrated the leader board after an outward half of 32, which included four birdies. She also birdied the 10th and 11th to move within three of Fairclough. A bogey at the 15th halted her progress but she still equalled the day-old course record of 66, set by Reid, and finished third.

The duel at the top, however, was not over. Descamps claimed birdies on the 12th, 13th and 14th to close the gap to one stroke - Fairclough also birdied the 13th. Fairclough coolly matched paces with Descamps over the closing four holes for a round of 68, four under par, a total of 277, and first prize of £16,500.

LEADING FINAL ROUND SCORES (GB and Ireland shaded)

277: L Fairclough (GB)	68, 71, 68, 70
278: F Descamps (BEL)	67, 72, 70, 69
279: C Hjalmarsson (SWE)	71, 68, 75, 63
280: L Davies (GB)	73, 70, 67, 69
281: D Reid (GB)	72, 73, 68, 71
282: C Davies (GB)	74, 73, 68, 67
283: K Wieser (GB)	70, 70, 73, 77
284: M Molesworth (GB)	73, 73, 69, 71
285: J Johnson (GB)	71, 71, 69, 69
286: K Davies (GB)	73, 72, 70, 72
287: Waghorn (GB)	71, 71, 68, 77
288: M Koch (GB)	72, 71, 70, 75

Oliver Holt, page 33

Juventus take their revenge to claim crown

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

JUVENTUS secured their first Italian title for nine years - and exacted quick revenge for their defeat by Parma in the Uefa Cup Final - with a resounding 4-0 victory over their second-placed rivals in Turin yesterday.

Two goals from Ravanelli and strikes from Vialli and Deschamps brought the Turin side the crown in a match Parma had to win to keep alive their hopes of snatching the prize.

The new champions have a ten-point lead over Parma with just two matches remaining. Roberto Baggio celebrated his first Italian title by playing a key role in each of the first three Juventus goals.

First, the gifted playmaker masterminded a counter-attack, from deep in his own half, for Ravanelli's 11th-minute goal. Then, in the 38th minute, Baggio's neat backheel set-up Deschamps for the second goal before, in the 65th, a superb through-ball laid on Vialli's sixteenth goal of the season. Ravanelli completed the rout in the 69th minute.

Lazio joined AC Milan, who play Ajax in the final of the European Cup on Wednesday.

FA Cup Final

27

in a share of third place after Aron Winter's 81st-minute winner beat Sampdoria at the Olympic stadium in Rome.

Sampdoria's hopes of qualifying for Europe next season were dealt a further blow by Internazionale's surprise 2-1 defeat, at home, to Cagliari. The Sardinians boosted their hopes of a place in the Uefa Cup by recovering from an early Ruben Sosa goal to win with an own-goal from Massimo Paganini and Dely Valder's 56th-minute effort.

John Van't Schip, Skuhravy and Ruotolo kept alive Genoa's hopes of staying in the top flight. They all scored in their side's 3-0 win over fellow strugglers Foggia, who now look certain to be joining Brescia and Reggina in the second division of the league for next season.

Jürgen Klinsmann scored two goals in his last match for Tottenham Hotspur in Britain. Klinsmann and Nick Barmby, the man Tottenham may be counting on for more goals next season without the inspirational German international, each scored twice in the 7-2 win over a joint Kitchee-Eastern Hong Kong XI.

Elimination may hasten Barkley's retirement

CHARLES BARKLEY said that the Phoenix Suns' loss to the Houston Rockets, in the seventh round of the Western Conference basketball semi-finals on Saturday, was probably his last game.

"I'll tell you the same thing I told the team after the game, more than likely I have played my last game," Barkley, 32, told an impromptu press conference after the game. "There is no soul-searching. I think you just get to the point you have to make the decision."

The nine-time All-Star added: "It's time. I'm sick of the grind." However, the emotional forward left room for changing his mind. "I want to say it is not 100 per cent, but more than likely I played my last game," Barkley said.

Barkley, who has talked about retiring before, said he will meet with the Suns' president and chief executive officer, Jerry Colangelo, as soon as possible and he declared himself "embarrassed and humiliated" by the Suns' 115-114 elimination by the Rockets after leading them three games to one.

Barkley has suffered from a series of injuries, most recently tendinitis of the left knee.

Cullen's third was an excellent goal. Fiona Lee, who had played a dominant role in midfield, found her at the edge of the circle and Cullen scooped the ball high into the net to complete what Souyave described as "an accomplished team performance."

HIGHTOWN: C Reid: J Crook, J Aspin, C Cook, L Merdon, M Souyave, F Lee, L Carr, M Morton, L Newcombe, T Cullen. Substitutes: C Gilbert, T Mawdsley, D Miller.

TROJANS: J Williams, K Smith, L Coppell, S Hibbert, E Teague, L Moss, S Gibson, A Wakefield, M Siler, K James, C Greenham. Substitutes: S Spriggs, J Greenham.

Umpires: M Hurreball, L Miller.

Cullen guides Hightown to victory

BY CATHY HARRIS

A BRILLIANT hat-trick of opportunist goals by Tina Cullen, the England and Great Britain forward, paved the way for Hightown's 5-0 victory against Trojans in the All England Women's Hockey Association Cup final at the Milton Keynes Sports Club yesterday.

Few teams have shown such consistency in the domestic

game and Hightown's triumph yesterday completed an indoor and outdoor double. The Merseysiders have also qualified for two European competitions.

Hightown's dominance in the face of dogged resistance from their first division opponents showed that they are not just an accomplished indoor club, as their record eight national titles demonstrate. Their outdoor league form is

equally impressive and in six seasons they have not finished outside the top five.

But their success has, for the most part, been largely ignored, particularly in Liverpool. Everton's FA Cup victory will not have helped. "There's hardly been a paragraph about us in the local press," Monica Rooney, their manager, said. "We were the first team in the city to qualify for European competition and

most non-hockey people won't know anything about us. We deserve better."

The extrovert Cullen admitted that she is sometimes the subject of press interest, saying: "I give occasional interviews and there was an article for Robbie Fowler, but it was really small. I don't think anyone has heard of me."

Maggie Souyave, the Hightown coach, made the break in the 27th minute for Cullen's first goal, which was dispatched on the reverse stick. A minute before the interval, Linda Carr cracked in a penalty corner to make it 2-0.



Williams, the Trojans goalkeeper, saves at the feet of Souyave, of Hightown

Alcatel take trophy after extra time

BY JOHN WATSON

AFTER ten days of tussle between the six teams in two leagues, the tournament for the Royal Berkshire Polo Club's premier high-goal prize, the Prince of Wales trophy, ended on the club's splendid No 1 ground at Windfield yesterday with John Manconi's team, Alcatel, defeating Kerry Packer's Ellerston White by eight goals to seven after extra time.

British tournament polo at the high-goal level is inclined to be fought out between two superior-handicap professional players in the centre of each side. In a clean, open game, none is a greater master of this type of challenge than the Ellerston pair, Carlos Gracida, from Mexico, and Gonzalo Piers, of Argentina.

This match, however, was not truly open and was marred by an excessive amount of the umpire's whistle.

Both sides were beautifully mounted but, if anything, Packer's string of ponies are slightly quicker on the turn. Gracida and Piers, playing with hand-in-glove co-operation, put Ellerston side ahead

by three goals to two at half-time.

It was in the fourth chukka, when Alcatel equalised, and then overtook to a tally of 6-4, that they showed their best mettle.

Their No 3, Picci Alberdi, who plays off a handicap of ten, is enormously forceful in the attack and has a close understanding with his spectacular No 2, the Chilean, Gabriel Donoso, who kept smashing through the Ellerston defences. One of his strong passes afforded a nice goal from the mallet of the team's back, Anthony Fanshawe.

Alberdi led them to a 7-5 advantage in the fifth chukka, but goals from Chris Hyde and Gracida produced the equal score again in the sixth.

It was Donoso who slammed home the decider for Manconi's squad. And it was for Manconi's pony, Majesty, ridden by Donoso, that Prince Charles presented the prize for the best mount in this outstandingly exciting encounter.

ALCATEL: 1, J W Manconi (1); 2, G Donoso (8); 3, A Alberdi (10); 4, A Fanshawe (5).

ELLERSTON WHITE: 1, C Hyde (2); 2, C Gracida (10); 3, G Piers (8); 4, K Packer (1).

Yorkshire take third county title

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

YORKSHIRE recovered the Norwich Union county hockey championship at Portsmouth yesterday, taking the title for the third time after a 3-2 victory over Kent.

Kent made a sensational start with a goal scored within 11 seconds by Surridge, but their joy was short-lived as Yorkshire ran up a 3-1 lead by half-time. West, who set up the first goal for Nash, scored the other two.

Kent came back into the match with a goal from Mathews midway through the second half but Yorkshire held on to their advantage.

Nottinghamshire, who selected most of their players from Beeston, a second division club, proved much too good for Gloucestershire and scored eight goals without reply in the under-21 final.

The England team completed the tour of Australia with a 5-0 defeat in Brisbane on Saturday. The Australians won five games in the six-match series. The other match was drawn. England could not score despite 13 short corners. Lewis got three of the Australia goals, which all came from open play.

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Bruguera faces Austrian challenge

Roman rain delays Muster's bid for clay-court crown

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT, IN ROME

AS Thomas Muster and Sergi Bruguera waited for the rain to cease and the sky to clear here yesterday afternoon, they could at least take heart from some statistics.

Almost a quarter of the competitors who have reached the 51 finals of the Italian Open have gone on to feature in the final of the French Open. Since 1973, six of the winners in the Foro Italico have been crowned as champion in Paris three weeks later.

They have, in turn, been like Nastase, Bjorn Borg twice, Adriano Panatta, Ivan Lendl and, three years ago, Jim Courier. Bruguera already holds the French title but Muster, by his own admission, has never before been a contender other than in 1990, when he made it to the semi-final.

Yet, during Bruguera's absence through injury, the Austrian developed into the leading clay-court exponent in the world. Since being knocked out in the second round in Palermo seven months ago, he has remained unbeaten on his favourite surface in 27 matches.

His impressive run was severely endangered, though, in the semi-final on Saturday against Wayne Ferreira, of South Africa. In the final set, Muster was 2-3 and 0-40 down but recovered to take 17 of the last 20 points. "After saving those three break points," he

said later, "everything went my way."

Including the support of the spectators, who respond to his audible and overt competitiveness. "Italians have a good understanding of sport," Muster proclaimed. "There is a lot going on and they love to come and watch it. Austrians prefer television to bring it into their houses."

Bruguera has collected all but one of his 14 titles on clay but had never qualified for the final in Rome before. He did so by beating Goran Ivanisevic in straight sets. The Croatian, in one of his characteristic states of lethargy, had the misfortune to be foot-faulted on match point.

Ivanisevic, not usually



Muster: impressive run

Sánchez Vicario in top form for Paris

FROM ALIX RAMSAY IN BERLIN

A DISPLAY of controlled aggression saw Arantxa Sánchez Vicario to her first German Open title yesterday, beating Magdalena Maleeva 6-4, 6-1. It was a win that boosted her confidence a week before the start of the French Open and confirmed her world No 1 ranking, ahead of Steffi Graf.

From the start, the Spaniard never allowed Maleeva to get into her stride and, as the match progressed, so the Bulgarian became an increasingly despondent figure. At times she struggled just to keep the ball in court, handing Sánchez Vicario point after point.

"But she doesn't give you anything," Maleeva said. "You never know if you have hit a winner because she gets everything back. I did what I could but I could do better."

It was a disappointing performance from Maleeva. Throughout the tournament she had attacked every opponent, chasing every chance and putting her opponents on the defensive from the first game. Yesterday she was a different player. On the few occasions when she was able

to put pressure on the top seed, Sánchez Vicario just raised her game another notch.

For Sánchez Vicario, her week in Berlin has been the best possible preparation for the defence of her French Open title. In the early rounds she was able to win without playing to her own high standards while, in the semi-final, she was made to fight when Irina Spirlea took her to three sets. Yesterday she dominated a final against an opponent she regards as "a very dangerous player".

She showed no sign of weakness, serving better than she had in earlier rounds and never allowing Maleeva a hint of a chance. "This was my best match all week," she said. "It is a very good warm-up for Paris. This is a great win for me."

Now, with another \$148,500 (£96,000) in the bank, she plans to spend a few days at home to practise and prepare her challenge for a third French title. "I know from this that I am in great form and that is the place to show it—at a grand slam."

Holyfield back on championship trail

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

EVANDER HOLYFIELD, the former heavyweight champion, defeated Ray Mercer in a gruelling, non-title bout over ten rounds in Atlantic City on Saturday, scoring a unanimous points decision.

Holyfield showed no signs of the heart problems that doctors first thought he had after losing his titles last April. They were later discounted by other doctors.

He knocked Mercer down in the eighth round with a left hook following a left-right combination. Just before the bell ended the round, Holyfield staggered Mercer with a right to the head.

The judge, Eugene Grant, scored the bout 96-93. Eva Shain had it 97-92 and Jean Williams gave Holyfield the edge 95-94.

A cut from a head butt opened alongside Holyfield's right eye but the blood, although flowing freely, streamed down the side of his face and not into his eye.

At the end Mercer raised his hands and shouted: "Yes. The real warrior." But after the decision was announced he slumped over the ropes, his face twisted in disbelief.

"I was able to hit him with some great body shots," Holyfield said, "but he's a vicious guy and his hard to get him down with one punch."

Holyfield, his head shaved for a bout for the first time,

appeared to be even more heavily-muscled than usual. "When I knocked him down in the eighth round, I knew I got the momentum back," Holyfield said. "Ray Mercer did more than I thought he would do. His jab was a lot quicker than I thought."

The contest was halted briefly in the eighth round by the referee, who called in Frank Duggett, the ringside doctor, to look at Holyfield's cut. Both boxers landed hard, crowd-pleasing punches throughout, but Holyfield landed more of them and in more combinations than did Mercer.

Holyfield lost his World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation titles to Michael Moorer last April.

This victory clearly puts him back in the mix of heavyweights looking for title contests against any of the three champions of the leading sanctioning bodies.

On the same bill, Hector "Macho" Camacho retained his International Boxing Council welterweight title with a unanimous 12-round decision over Homer Gibbins.

Dariusz Michalczewski, of Germany, retained his World Boxing Organisation light-heavyweight title in Hamburg on Saturday, knocking out the American, Paul Carlo, in the fourth round.

averse to voicing his opinion in the umpire's direction, remained silent. "I wanted to tell him a lot of things but I might be fined and suspended again," he explained. "I didn't say anything but I still think what I think he is."

Muster holds the psychological edge over Bruguera, having won seven of their ten previous matches and all of the last four. Nevertheless, he was not expecting the final to be brief. "We might have to book the court for the whole afternoon," he had predicted. Instead it was empty.

A decision on the eligibility of Greg Rusedski to play for Britain has been taken but not yet revealed. The management committee of the International Tennis Federation (ITF) has discussed the matter here and intends to announce the verdict today.

Diplomacy is given as the reason for the delay. The ITF would prefer that the Lawn Tennis Association and the Canadian Federation read the fax messages that have been sent to them before finding out through the media which nation the left-hander born in Canada to a British mother 21 years ago is to represent in future.

However, the gesture of courtesy was misplaced. The president of the Canadian Federation is on holiday and is not expected to return home until Tuesday.

Rusedski was supposed to have been told of his fate on Saturday, but the bureaucratic cogs are turning even more slowly than had been expected. David Lloyd, the new captain of the British Davis Cup team, still does not know whether the player, ranked 58th in the world, will be available for the next tie.

Only if official approval is given can Rusedski be selected to play against Monaco at Eastbourne in July. Should Britain continue a sequence of failure that has lasted for three years, the country would be relegated to group three of the Euro-African zone, effectively the fourth division.

Meanwhile Rusedski overcame a mild case of tonsillitis on Saturday to beat Javier Frana 7-6, 6-4 and reach the final of the Red Clay Championships in Coral Springs, Florida. The other semi-final was won by Todd Woodbridge, the fourth seed, and his long-time doubles partner, 1-6, 7-5, 7-5 in an all-Australian semi-final.

Rusedski, who had to cope with a three-hour rain delay in the opening set tie-break, said: "I knew I had to win the first set to win the match. I didn't think I'd have enough energy to go three sets with that long rain delay. He reached his first clay-court final by breaking the Argentinian in the fifth game of the second set."

Monarchs make vital recovery

BY RICHARD WETHERELL

TWO big plays in the first quarter helped the London Monarchs to a crucial, nervy, 27-22 win against the Barcelona Dragons in the World League of American Football on Saturday. The victory gives them a chance of qualifying for the World Bowl, something that is well out of reach of the Scottish Claymores who lost their sixth game out of seven, 30-13 to the unbeaten Amsterdam Admirals. Their season is effectively over.

After an opening drive by the Dragons that ended with a field goal from Scott Szerezy, Eric Stephens returned the kick-off 90 yards for a Monarchs touchdown. Szerezy's second field goal, from 23 yards, also got a quick response when Alan Allen caught a 58-yard touchdown pass.

Don Stivestri kicked two field goals to another by Szerezy before a long drive by Barcelona in the third quarter ended with a touchdown by Lindsey Chapman. The Monarchs replied through Mark Tilley to make the score 27-15.

The Dragons came back with a touchdown by Tyrec Davis and when they got the ball back with 1min 45sec left they almost won the game, but on the final play, Kevin Porter tipped the ball away from Mario Henry's grasp.



The Oxford runners, Nneenna Lynch and Claire Martin, the eventual winner, in the women's 1,500 metres on Saturday. Photograph: Andre Camara

Cambridge builds for future on fast track

BY JOHN GOODBODY

THE embers of the era of *Chariots of Fire* were rekindled at Cambridge on Saturday when the university officially opened its first all-weather track with the 121st athletics match against Oxford.

This is a momentous year for athletics at Oxford and Cambridge as it celebrates the centenary of the first match against Harvard and Yale and the 75th anniversary of Achilles, the club composed of former athletes from the two universities.

Cambridge has long been envious of the track at Iffley Road, scene of Roger Bannister's first sub-four-minute mile in 1954. There have been all-weather tracks at Oxford since 1976, and the advantages have been reflected by the results in the annual matches, with Cambridge having won only six of the past 18 men's fixtures.

Not only have talented athletes been attracted by the track at Oxford but, until yesterday, the annual fixture was regularly held there. Oxford won the

men's match by 123 points to 100. Yet all was not tranquil amid the satisfaction of the opening yesterday as part of the new £4.2 million sports complex in west Cambridge. An independent company, MSC, which has scrutinised the work of Balsam, has reported that the track is not up to international standards in certain areas.

Tony Lemons, director of physical education at the university, said: "There is nothing wrong with the

track as it is now. Our concerns are for the long term. The question is whether in four or five years it might delaminate and bubble. Balsam has suggested that it extend the guarantee period of five years and give financial guarantees. The university and the company are in negotiations about this." The track also suffers from not having adequate protection from the winds that blow across The Fens.

However, Ruth Irving, the interna-

tional long jumper and Cambridge president, inspired the women's team to a 90-89 victory against Oxford in the match sponsored by Price Waterhouse, and she said: "Cambridge was one of the worst universities for athletics facilities. Now it is one of the best. This track will make a huge difference. For people with international ambitions, a track like this is an attraction. Last winter we were having to train on grass."

The athletes in light blue will be able to use it to prepare for the centenary match against Harvard and Yale at Oxford on June 28. This will include a veterans' match, in which Chris Brasher, Chris Chataway and Bruce Tulloh are expected to run. The next night there will be a banquet at the Guildhall, which both Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee, and Primo Nebiolo, the president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation, will attend.

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Ngugi's dope test ban lifted

JOHN NGUGI, of Kenya, the five-times world cross country champion and former Olympic 5,000 metres champion, is free to compete again after the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) yesterday lifted their four-year ban on him.

The suspension was imposed 27 months ago after Ngugi refused to take a random dope test in his rural home 125 miles north of Nairobi, saying the IAAF test team had not properly

identified itself and was not accompanied by a Kenyan track official.

Christopher Winner, the IAAF spokesman, said it had decided to lift the ban under its exceptional circumstances rule.

"The council believes he has suffered enough," Winner said. "The lack of information available to Ngugi at the time he refused the test as well as the language problem made it proper and correct to exercise clemency."

Salvation finally beckons for Aberdeen

Aberdeen 3
Dunfermline Athletic 1

BY KEVIN MCCARRA

SALVATION, as any theologian will tell you, can be a lengthy business. On the evidence of recent form, Aberdeen had been expected to confirm their place among the elite of the Scottish League premier division by trouncing Dunfermline Athletic in yesterday's first-leg of the play-off.

Instead, only three minutes remained when they at last established a truly significant advantage for Thursday's return leg at East End Park. As Irvine lifted the ball forward, Shearer was played on-side by a tardy den Bieman and took advantage with an imperious half-volley into the far corner of the net for his second goal of the game.

Until then, the main impres-

sion had been of Aberdeen's extreme difficulty in dealing with an unfamiliar test. This match proved an ambiguous occasion for them. It may have been specifically designed by the authorities to be an ordeal, but few supporters at Pittodrie can have shaken off the feeling that they had come to a summer fair.

Merriment was expected. After all, Roy Aitken's team had rescued themselves from the automatic relegation place with victories over Heart of Midlothian, Dundee United and Falkirk. Such progress made it difficult to dread Dunfermline, who were, after all, mere runners-up in the first division.

An Aberdeen side that had lost its fear, however, was thereby a side diminished. The pounding of their anxious hearts had given them the impetus to stampede forward in recent weeks. Against Dunfermline they again occupied

plenty of territory, but far too often their approach was dutiful rather than flamboyant.

Although both teams were weakened by injury, Aberdeen retained the greater strength. Dunfermline recognised the fact and responded in predictable fashion, buttressing their defence by employing Robertson, normally in midfield, as a

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sweeper. The effect, until late in the first half, was to render Aberdeen's greater possession inconsequential.

Before the opening goal, in the 39th minute, Dunfermline, on the break, posed as much of a threat as the home side. Up until half time, no possibility existed of Aberdeen inundating the opposition defence. When they did score, it was

considered technique that forced the breakthrough.

Smith fouled Thomson and, from the right of the penalty area, Glass flighted a dipping free kick to the near post. The ball bounced in front of van de Kamp and left the goalkeeper stranded.

Dunfermline refused to be cowed, however, immediately responding with a long-range attempt that Snelders turned behind with a spy leap. Sturdiness should perhaps have been expected of a visiting side that was unbeaten in its last 15 games. There was, though, still a sense of surprise when, in the 49th minute, Moore took Smith's short corner and curled the ball to the back post for Robertson, a former Aberdeen player, to head home the equaliser.

With that goal, the home side's hope of the uncomplicated mastery that would make the second leg a formality

seemed to recede. They did, all the same, regain the lead seven minutes later. Van de Kamp pawed at Glass's fiendish corner, diverting it to McKimmie, who crossed from the left for Shearer to nod into the unattended net. Later, Glass was to beat three men before foiling himself by firing ineptly over.

The stage when Dunfermline might have been persuaded of their own inferiority, however, was long since past. Indeed they were angered to be denied a penalty after a stumbling McKimmie appeared to haul down Moore. The negligence of den Bieman, at the very end, though, was to do them even greater harm.

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Waddle among favourites

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

CHRIS WADDLE has emerged as one of the favourites to take over from Trevor Francis as the Sheffield Wednesday manager. Francis, who led the club out for the Cup Final at Wembley two years ago, found himself out of work on Saturday, when he became the thirteenth FA Carling Premiership manager to part company with his club this season.

Waddle, the former England international, who is in the playing staff at Hillsborough, could take over as player-manager, though he was giving little away at the weekend. "I won't comment on my situation," he said. "But it is a sad day when anyone loses their job."

Others mentioned in connection with the vacancy are Dave Bassett, who is in charge of Sheffield United, Ray Harford, the assistant manager of Blackburn Rovers, and Bruce Rioch, who has guided Bolton Wanderers to the Endleigh Insurance League first division play-off final.

Dave Richards, the Wednesday chairman, ended months of speculation about Francis's position by announcing that his contract was being terminated one year early by "mutual agreement". Francis had been with the club since 1990.

"The board would like to place on record its sincere thanks and appreciation of the services provided by Mr Francis in the last four years and wish him every success in the future," Richards said in a statement. "The vacancy for a new manager will be advertised immediately."

Despite finishing thirteenth in the table, Wednesday did not end lingering fears about their safety until the final day of the season with a 4-1 win over Ipswich. Although the season was a big disappoint-

ment for the club, Francis still seemed to have the backing of the supporters, who voted two to one in favour of him staying in a local newspaper poll.

However, there had been reports of unrest in the Wednesday dressing-room. Last week Francis gave an indication of how difficult the past few months had been for him. "It has been the toughest for me in 25 years," he said. "It has been a nightmare." The former England striker joined Wednesday as a player, after 18 months as manager of Queens Park Rangers, and was appointed player-manager following Ron Atkinson's sudden departure to Aston Villa in June 1991.

Wednesday finished third in his first season in charge and Francis led them to two Wembley appearances in 1993 - defeats by Arsenal in the FA Cup and Coca-Cola Cup. Seventh place last season was acceptable but performances this season evidently were not.

He was the third manager to lose his job in five days, following Alan Smith, who left Crystal Palace on Monday, and Brian Horton, who was dismissed by Manchester City on Tuesday.



Francis: hard times

Wrexham bow out of Welsh Cup in triumph

Cardiff City 1
Wrexham 2

BY ALYSON RUDD

EXCLUSIVITY is generally applied in the hope of improving quality and ditching lightweight, but it is unlikely to work out that way in the Welsh Cup.

Wrexham and Cardiff City, the finalists yesterday, have dominated the competition, winning it 45 times between them, but will do so no longer after being excluded from it next season. Uefa, football's European governing body, has ruled that only clubs in the Welsh league pyramid will be allocated a Cup Winners' Cup place. As the odds favour an English Football League side winning the Welsh Cup, the Football Association of Wales has had to ban them from entering it.

So the National Stadium is unlikely to witness again scenes of such intense emotion for a Welsh football final as it did yesterday. Cardiff, newly relegated from the Endleigh Insurance League second division, were given the kind of support usually reserved for teams that have

just won the treble. The players, bidding farewell to the manager, Eddie May, responded with unusual passion. The club will this week be taken over by a consortium headed by Bernard Baker, the former Gillingham chairman.

Cardiff trailed by two goals at half-time and their spirited fightback deserved at least a chance of winning the trophy in extra time. Wrexham took the lead in the nineteenth minute from the penalty spot, after Baddeley tripped Connolly, and seven minutes later, Bennett, the penalty taker, scored again after linking up with Durkin.

Marriott, in the Wrexham goal, kept out the more perceptive Cardiff strikes until the 78th minute, when Dale headed in Wigg's corner.

There's only one team in Wales, the Cardiff supporters roared. There are more than that but the Welsh Cup will miss the type of drama that these two provided yesterday.

GARDIFF CITY (4-2-2): S Williams - D Smith, I. Baggley, J. Perry, D. Swales - C. Griffiths, N. Richardson, N. Wigg, P. Wigg (sub: C. O'Leary, E. Mann) - A. Bird (sub: S. Young), C. Dale.

WREXHAM (4-4-2): A. Marriott - D. Brace, B. Hunter, B. Jones, P. Harty - K. Durkin, G. Owen, B. Hughes, K. Connolly - G. Bennett, S. Morris (sub: S. Watson, B. S. V. Reed).

Manchester United's turbulent season ends in despair with defeat at Wembley

Everton's Royle revival crowned by Rideout

Everton 1
Manchester United 0

By ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

BENEATH grey skies, Wembley Stadium on Saturday became a study in human nature, a reflection of the winner-takes-all society. Making his way onto the turf, Joe Royle, a manager credited with turning Everton from non-hoppers to winners in six months, strode proudly, purposefully. A big-hearted man, he embraced players in red as well as blue shirts — but he did not notice, did not intrude on, the figure seated centre-field, head on knees, a picture of despair and defeat.



Paul Ince, once so authoritative that he was chosen to captain England from midfield, might have been expected to assume the leadership of Manchester United from the 21st minute when Steve Bruce pulled a hamstring. But Ince, who attends another sitting, another judgment, at Croydon Magistrates' Court tomorrow, was physically and emotionally spent even before Cup Final day. He will plead not guilty to playing a part in the Cantona affair at Selhurst Park in January; nevertheless, his forlorn figure was symbolic of the disintegration that has followed that wild night, the ruin of United from the most skilled squad in the land to a team which has invited other, sadder descriptions.

Scholes — who are still apprentices. They had not looked out of place in what was not a particularly gracious 114th FA Cup Final. But youngsters they are, and it was a shame for them that Ince was, as he has appeared since January, a player muzzled. United had no option but to put a stop to his moaning and his belligerence, and with that straitjacket of discipline, he appears to have lost conviction in his play.

He chose the perfect option, using the overlapping Jackson, an Everton reserve full back, and when Jackson cut deftly across the stranded Pallister, his pass invited Stuart to shoot from eight yards. Amazingly, but characteristically, Stuart struck the underside of the bar; firmly, and again characteristically, Paul Rideout headed the ball into the net, his sixteenth goal of a season in which his effectiveness had been doubted. It was a goal that won the Cup and won Rideout an immediate three-year extension to his contract.

It was the worst of United's defending. Moments earlier Denis Irwin had shown the opposite, moving across to central defence, sensing the lameness of Bruce, snapping down on the ball seconds before Rideout might have scored.



The Everton players enjoy the traditional celebrations of the Cup winners on the Wembley turf after Rideout's goal had accounted for Manchester United

of opportunity that Denis Law, to whom Scholes is sometimes compared, would have swallowed up. But this was youth against experience. Southall, 36, and mistakenly presumed to be an athlete beyond his prime, boldly persuaded the apprentice to try to chip the ball over his head and acrobatically repelled it.

The match was an affirmation of the fact that the British game is long on commitment but short on creativity. Tenacity is no substitute for technique, tiredness scant excuse for the trough in which English football finds itself. Pace, pace, pace... everything moving faster than imagination.

Yet, as Royle was quick to point out, there had been no malice, no cynicism and no attempt by his supposed underdogs to set out a policy of extreme containment. Indeed not — Everton won the Cup with a defence that refuses to yield and with an attack that

will be better in Europe next season when the surgeon's scalpel has not so recently penetrated the flesh of players such as Duncan Ferguson.

Above all, Saturday, and the last week of the football season, had been a salutary lesson in life and sport. Everton, after two seasons of flitting desperately with relegation, had been lifted by the astonishing faith of 30,000 regular supporters, who, week after week, had tried to

breathe life into the team under Mike Walker, and who then found a common spirit, a catalyst, in Royle, an Evertonian by upbringing who returned to persuade fearful players that they could be winners in the league and the Cup.

track

aper and Cambridge led the women's team against Oxford in the second of three matches. The women's team was led by the Cambridge team, who were the favorites to win. The match was a close one, with both teams showing great skill and determination.

deen

recade. They were the first to be seen in the arena, and they were the first to be seen in the arena. They were the first to be seen in the arena, and they were the first to be seen in the arena.

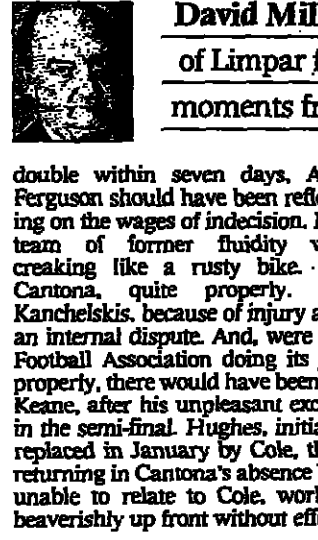
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he trouble. The line forward was Eddie. The line forward was Eddie. The line forward was Eddie. The line forward was Eddie. The line forward was Eddie.

Wingers answer prayers

So Neville Southall, the crusty veteran, won the Cup for Everton, did he? No, say others. It was Paul Rideout's headed goal, of course. But hold on a minute, yet other voices cry, stand back and reflect and you will see that Joe Royle did it, transforming the team from deadbeats within six months.

Wrong, on all three counts. The player who opened up a boring final, who demonstrated Manchester United were there to be beaten, who precipitated Rideout's goal, who gave Southall something to cling to, something to protect, was Anders Limpar, a winger as elegant in motion as a springbok and largely disregarded during his time in English football. Ask perceptive Arsenal supporters.



Limpar rescued a dead match, and then, belatedly, was joined by Ryan Giggs, who did more than enough to turn the outcome the other way, but whose colleagues failed him. Limpar and Giggs reminded us of the oldest truth in the game, unchanged over more than a century: that the widest, most exciting spaces are always out on the wing, and that is where defences are the most vulnerable.

David Miller on the telling contribution of Limpar for the victors and the magical moments from Giggs for the vanquished

double within seven days. Alex Ferguson should have been reflecting on the wages of indecision. His team of former fluidity was creaking like a rusty bike. No Cantona, quite properly. No Kanchelskis, because of injury and an internal dispute. And, were the Football Association doing its job properly, there would have been no Keane, after his unpleasant excess in the semi-final. Hughes, initially replaced in January by Cole, then returning in Cantona's absence but unable to relate to Cole, worked beaverishly up front without effect.

In the end, you felt glad for Everton. They may not be pretty, the school of science may be no more than a memory. Yet any club is always bigger than its present individuals. Everton supporters deserved the success, for their loyalty, and because this is a club with a famous past. If Royle can modify his approach, there may be a bright future. Walker, having obtained Amokachi, had no idea how to use him. If Royle could achieve this, Goodison might recreate the era of Alex Young.

Johnson scents glory era ahead

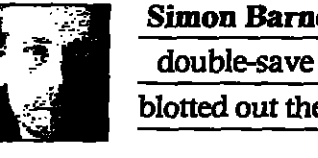
PETER JOHNSON, the Everton chairman, views the Wembley triumph over Manchester United as the stepping stone to another era of Goodison greatness. Twelve years ago, Adrian Heath provided the launchpad for a struggling Everton with an unexpected equaliser in the Milk Cup at Oxford.

That goal began the transformation of Howard Kendall's Everton from relegation candidates to regular championship and cup contenders. Now it could happen again, with Paul Rideout's Wembley strike proving the catalyst. "I'd like to think this will be the start of another Everton dynasty," Johnson said.

Southall the unbeatable

In the pub before the game the tally was showing the great goals of Cup Final history, and I observed snuffily that they wouldn't show anything better than Jim Montgomery. For those who don't recall, Montgomery, Sunderland's goalie, made a series of inspired saves in the 1973 Cup Final. His fit of genius allowed Leeds United, who thought they were the best team in history, to be beaten by Sunderland, who knew they weren't even the best team in the second division.

Well, I was wrong, of course, but only in a way. The result of the FA Cup Final on Saturday was, as an upset, not in the same class as '73. But there was a moment of pure goalkeeping that was the equal of anything Montgomery did. At the end, they told us that Dave Watson, the Everton captain, was man of the match, and there was universal dismay. Surely the choice was between Limpar, who gave the match to Everton, and Neville Southall, who hung onto it.



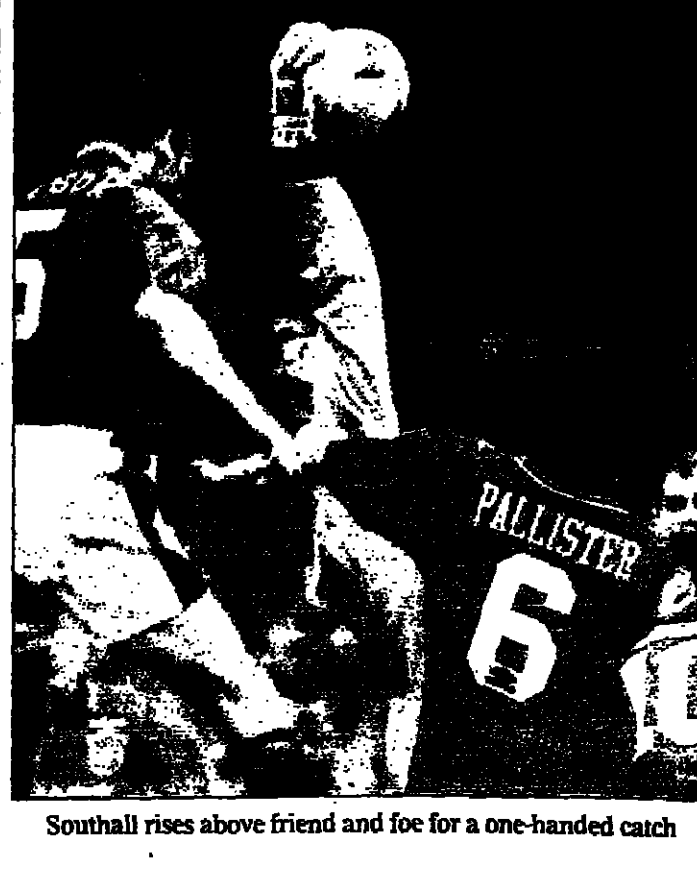
Simon Barnes applauds the magnificent double-save made by a goalkeeper who blotted out the sun for Manchester United

tip, so a goalkeeper can block out his entire goal. Southall stood big, the shot came, and, sealing an extra nanosecond by falling away from the ball, sniping up a pair of hands, each one capable of blocking out a galaxy, he parried. That left him on his backside, the ball at Southall's feet.

Again, Scholes got it right, and lashed the rebound goalwards. Southall, grounded, with hands out of commission, scythed the ball away with his foot. Manchester United's best was not good enough. For them, the double-save introduced the sickener-factor. That decided the match.



Giggs troubles the Everton defence with his sure touch



Southall rises above friend and foe for a one-handed catch

Fourth day irrelevant on pitches favourable to bowlers

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

ON A day when Northamptonshire won despite being bowled out for 59, when Middlesex managed only 200 in two innings and when Yorkshire won in little more than six sessions for the second successive week, the question in the Britannic Assurance championship was whether to mourn the depressing standard of batting or the inadequacy of pitches.

Neither one, certainly, is to be celebrated but if events sustain the suspicion that there are far too many English batsmen who find survival impossible once the ball moves laterally, greater alarm in official circles will be directed at the fact that five out of seven in the current round of fixtures have no need of a fourth day.

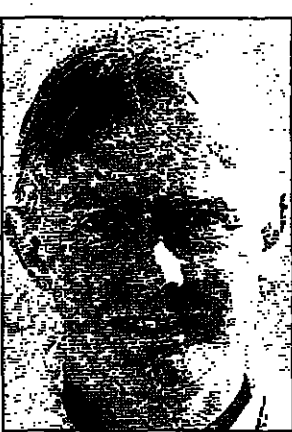
Only at Chester-le-Street, where the cricket has been attritional if not ponderous, and at Hove, where Sussex are four wickets away from beating Essex handsomely, will there be members and followers, around the country, feeling short-changed and there is further reinforcement here, for the widespread condemnation of the shallow and uncompetitive county system.

The greatest attention, however, should be focused on the surfaces that brought about such premature finishes. Already, Donald Carr and his troupholders on the Test and County Cricket Board pitches committee have descended upon Bradford, but Saturday also saw 21 wickets fall at Northampton and 13 in less than half the scheduled playing hours, at Lord's.

Before this season began, the Board modified its pitches directive, allowing some grass to be left on but encouraging the ends to be prepared to support spin. I understand that a second letter has been circulated already after fears that certain counties were interpreting the concession as a licence to produce multi-coloured Utopias for bowlers of all breeds.

Not everyone agrees that corrective action is needed. Brian Bolus, employed by the Board as an aide to the chairman of selectors, apparently assured the pitches committee that the Bradford match had been full of entertainment. This somewhat missed the point. As for the assertion by Kim Barnett, the Derbyshire captain, that the Chesterfield surface last week, on which two bowlers were broken and 40 wickets fell in little more than two days, was the type on which all games should be played, the very idea beggars belief.

Yorkshire won the Chester-



Pigott: eleven wickets

field game by a mere seven runs. They had more to spare at Bradford, where Glamorgan's bright start to the championship ended with a seven-wicket defeat. Yorkshire have won all three of their games, their best start in the championship for many a year, and their position is not illusory, whatever the pitches they have been playing on.

Eight points ahead of them, however, lie Lancashire. Gallingly though this may be for those glorying in the Yorkshire revival, it is the clearest indication yet of a power shift in the county game, where northern clubs have languished for too long.

Neither side, however, has yet usurped Northamptonshire, who stay top after winning a bizarre game with Surrey. Few of us imagined observing Tony Pigott, 37 next month, taking ten wickets in a match for only the second time in his lengthy career, but his figures of 11 for 11 were in vain. Surrey, required to make 200 for an improbable win, fell ten runs short.

Hampshire, suffering a third defeat in three starts, and Derbyshire, now beaten three times since their first game demolition of Sussex, look sure to finish among the also-rans. Sussex may have higher ambitions.

Smith hooked on return to Test arena

Andrew Longmore
on the accomplished
batsman ignored by
the England selectors

I have not been a good few days for Robin Smith. On Thursday evening, at ten to seven, he was run out for the third time this season through no fault of his own. On Friday, he was left out of the first England international squad of the summer and dropped a straightforward slip catch. The batsman, Neil Taylor, went on to make 87. On Saturday, he was out cutting a spinner. Caught de Silva bowled Patel 22.

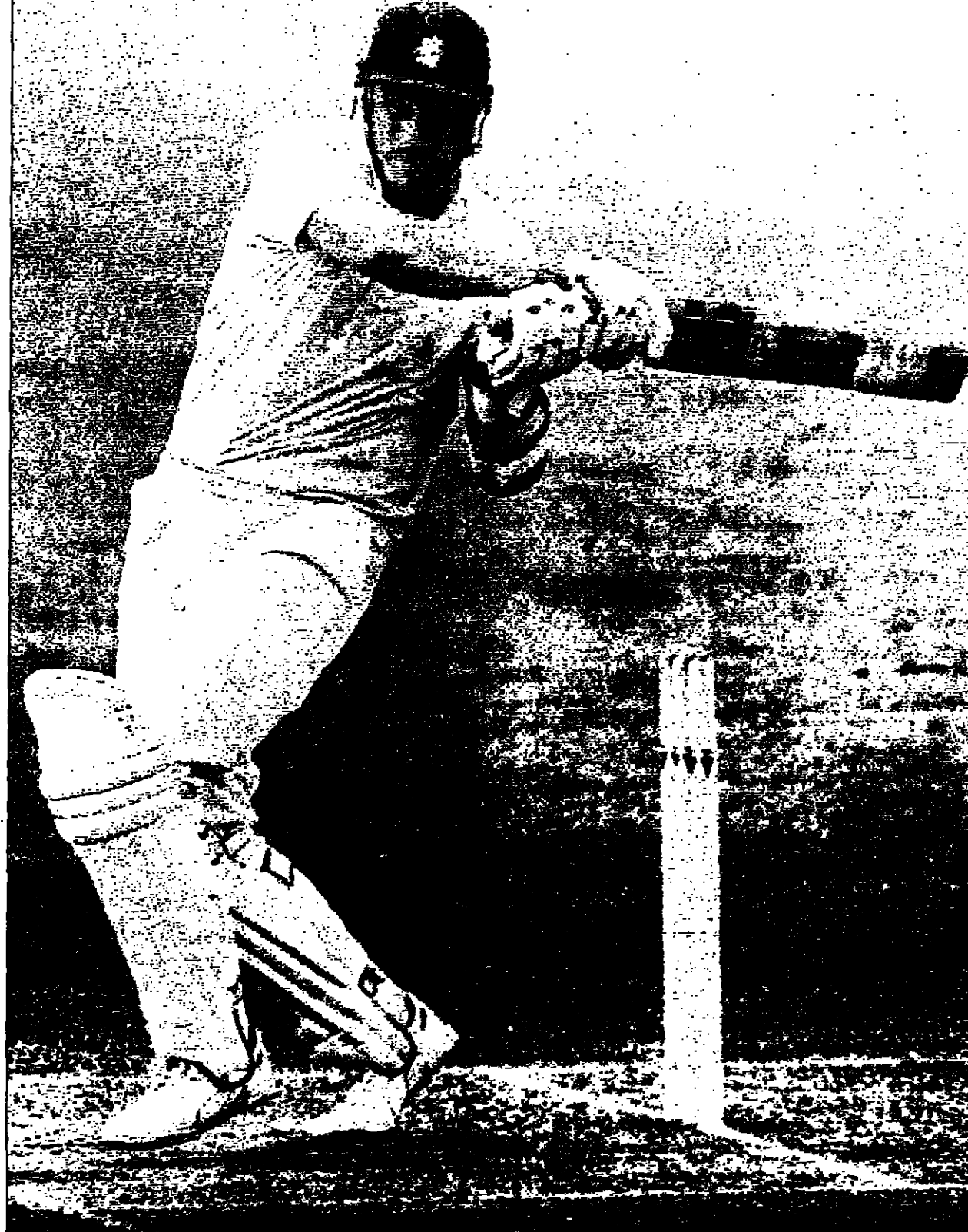
The ball rolled up his arm and back into his hands. Smith recalled a few hours later. "A foot either side and it would have been 26 not out without thinking. Now, people will look in the paper and say: 'I see Smith was out to a spinner again.' But I really played him very comfortably. I was feeling out-standing out there. Then, boom, you're out."

To add to his frustrations, David Graveney, the newly elected England selector, had popped in to the Southampton ground earlier in the week, bringing some sign that the forgotten name had remained on Raymond Illingworth's files. After a long, silent, recuperative winter away from the game, Smith appreciated the thought, if not the message. "For the first time in my career, there was a little communication. He said there were a few others in front of me, but he told me to keep working hard and keep scoring runs. It wasn't really what I wanted to hear, but at least someone is telling me what's going on."

SMITH points out that he is not the first, nor will he be the last, England batsman to be summarily discarded and he is not seeking sympathy. But, even given notoriously itchy fingers on the selection ejection button, his fall has been so devastatingly swift, you wonder whether the reasons go deeper than mere loss of form.

One moment, first choice, the next, not one of the top ten best batsmen in the country, his Test batting average of 44 in 53 matches overridden by criticism of his technique against the spinners—Shane Warne, mainly—and some stray comments from Keith Fletcher, then England manager, about cricket taking second place to business.

At the time he was dropped, painfully, before the Tests against South Africa last summer, that seemed to make sense. Even Smith was beginning to believe the rumours of



Smith's impressive Test record has been built on his ability to take the fight to the fast bowlers

his demise. "I'm not a naturally arrogant person and criticisms get to me more than they might with someone else. I know I should be strong enough not to be affected by them, but when you read something over and over again, and even in benefit games, people are shouting, 'Hey, I'll get Smithy, I can

bowl leggies', it does get to you."

"At Lord's last summer, it was a new regime in charge and I was really nervous and fidgety because I knew Ily had backed up those comments on my business interests. I didn't feel at all confident about my place in the side and so, bang, bang, I

played like a complete beginner. Then I had one miss at Old Trafford and never played again. I failed three times and I was out." But was there a grain of truth in Fletcher's criticism?

"No, definitely not. I am my own strongest critic and my family would never let me get away with that. If they saw

anything, they would let me know long before the newspapers did. If Fletcher felt that I wasn't concentrating on my cricket, he should have spoken to me privately, not told the world's press about it."

For the record, Smith's business interests are a company manufacturing cricket helmets, run by the former

Hampshire batsman, Jon Hardy, and a new travel company, Judge Tours, set up a year ago. "I'm quite glad I had some outside interests, otherwise I would be a total wreck," he said.

"For a start, I would not have had any income in the winter. It's all very well when you're playing for England. You have a good lifestyle, a nice house, drive nice cars. Then, all of a sudden, you're out and what do you do? Go on the dole? It's a very unsettling career. But in no way do any of my business interests detract from my drive or my motivation to play for England. I'm desperate to get back into the team, but I have to think of the future and my family, too."

As news of the England one-day squad was announced over the loudspeaker at Southampton last week, Smith stopped his net practice—against an off spinner, as it

'I have been hit in the solar plexus; let's see if I am a good fighter or a loser'

happens—to listen, head bowed, ears straining. It was like going back to the school noticeboard, searching the team-sheet for your name. Fairbrother, Wells. "I knew deep down I wouldn't be there. I haven't scored the runs, but until you hear it, you have a slight feeling you might get a break and that's what I need because I know if I did get a recall I'm playing as well and working as hard as at any time in my life."

Though his last innings against West Indies was a little matter of 175 in Lara's Test, the long-term aim now, at the age of 31, is to return to his native South Africa next winter as a member of the England tour party rather than the leader of Judge Tours, which will be taking a party to Cape Town.

"I'll give myself 18 months to get back into the England side. But if I've produced the goods, worked hard and still not got back, then I'll know that I really don't fit and I'll look for something else to do. I'd retire or whatever."

"It's not a sob story because I've played more international cricket than a lot of people and even if I'm not playing for England, I love playing for Hampshire. But they say that good fighters can get off the canvas and come back. I've been hit in the solar plexus; let's see if I'm a good fighter or a loser."

Lancashire equipped to maintain challenge for honours

By SIMON WILDE

SAY IT with care around Old Trafford, but Manchester may not be long without sporting laurels. What United's footballers have failed to secure, could soon be provided by Lancashire's cricketers, and it might not be just one prize that they bring home by autumn.

In the past ten days, they have beaten the last two county champions, Warwickshire and Middlesex, with more than a day to spare. They have three wins out of three and only one of the bonus points available has escaped them.

"We are delighted with the way we have started," Mike Watkinson, the Lancashire captain, said. "In recent seasons we have begun poorly in the championship and found ourselves trying to catch others up. Now we have got a head start."

As Warwickshire showed last year, it is essential to have strength in depth to survive the rigours of a long season, but Watkinson feels that Lancashire have the players to cope. "We have a good squad, which is important because in a few days' time we lose three players to England and that could go on all season."

Watkinson was absent through injury from the match with Middlesex which finished on Saturday, but he was hardly missed. His stand-in, Graham Lloyd, made the top score of the match and the seam attack of Wasim Akram, Martin Chapple and Galian Hardy required assistance. They dismissed Middlesex for 88 and 112 in just 572 balls, the last 13 wickets in only three hours 20 minutes on Saturday, to complete a win by an innings and 175 runs.

Wasim, who took nine wickets, is popularly perceived as the key to Lancashire's championship hopes but they are a team in which few can be sure of their places and nobody is indispensable, not even the England captain or a former captain of Pakistan.

Indeed, it may not be insignificant that Atherton, who scored precious few runs for the county in 1994, and Wasim, without whom Lancashire won five of their last eight championship matches last season, have recently made sizeable contributions.

Both certainly made an impact at Lord's. "The way Atherton and Crawley survived on the first morning was vital," Watkinson said. "Wasim bowled superbly throughout. He stuck to the right line and length and did not bowl too many bouncers."

Young blades sharpening skills on blunted attacks

By JOHN GOODBODY

DORSET may not possess a first-class cricket side but the county is nurturing two of the most prolific schoolboy batsmen in England. Matthew Swarbrick, at Claysmore, and Tim Lamb, at Bryanston, schools within a few miles of each other, are both enjoying fine seasons.

Cricket, hemmed in by examinations, bad weather and the shortening of the summer term, survives and sometimes flourishes in schools through the dedication of the masters and coaches and the enthusiasm of the pupils.

It is not easy to devote yourself to long hours of cricket when you know that the same hours spent in revision could make the difference to an A-level grade.

Roger Denning, the first XI coach at Claysmore, had two boys decline to play for the school this term because of the pressures of work. In the match between the schools last Thursday, which Bryanston won by two wickets off the last ball, several boys were studying while waiting to bat.



IN SCHOOLS

Some have had extra time for revision this season because of the long spells Swarbrick and Lamb have spent at the crease.

Swarbrick, who represented Hampshire second XI against the MCC Young Professionals last year, ended the 1994 season with centuries against Abbotsholme and Victoria College, Jersey.

This summer he has scored 127 against Bournemouth, 135 not out against Sherborne II, 135 against Canford II, 42 against Millfield II and 117 against the Old Claysmoreans. Since Claysmore, whose most famous cricketer, old boy is Lt-Col John Stephenson, former secretary

of MCC, has only 280 pupils, the school is obliged to play the second teams of many of its bigger rivals.

Bryanston, beaten only by Winchester in the last three seasons, played its first XI last week against Claysmore and Swarbrick scored 93 before he was caught.

It was a difficult day for Denning. Not only was he coaching Claysmore but he had a son in each of the two teams, with one trying to bowl out Swarbrick, 17, who he describes as an exceptionally correct batsman and determined—"focused, I believe is the in-word."

Swarbrick has played full back for Dorset and Wiltshire under-19s at rugby union and represented the county as a 100-metre freestyle swimmer. But now, his father says, he "eats, lives and sleeps cricket". Lamb has been almost as prolific, scoring 100 not out against King's School, Bruton, 134 against Monkton Combe, 92 not out against Prior Park and 79 against The Fort Club. Then, last Thursday, he got 62 against Claysmore.

He believes his main weakness is against leg spin, "but I'm working on that." Tim Hill, the master in charge of cricket at Bryanston, described Lamb as "potentially the best batsman we have had recently at the school. He is also phenomenally talented in other areas." Lamb has played at stand-off half for Wasps under-19s and is a county hockey player.

On Saturday, he was brought down to earth, being caught in the slips for a duck as Bryanston lost to Canford by 63 runs. Swarbrick, however, hit 152 not out, a school record, as Claysmore beat Milton Abbey by 85 runs. His failure, perhaps, has yet to come.



Lamb, left, and Swarbrick, who have been piling up the runs this season. Photograph: Adrian Brooks

SATURDAY'S COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP SCOREBOARDS

Northamptonshire v Surrey

NORTHAMPTON (third day of four): Northamptonshire (40) beat Surrey (5) by 117 runs. **Northamptonshire**: First Innings 403 (117 runs). **Surrey**: First Innings 29 (5 runs).
First Innings: Northamptonshire 403 (117 runs), Surrey 29 (5 runs).
Second Innings: Northamptonshire 117 (33 runs), Surrey 29 (5 runs).
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One hundred Innings: Northamptonshire 117 (33 runs), Surrey 29 (5 runs).

Leicestershire v Derbyshire

LEICESTER (third day of four): Leicestershire (40) beat Derbyshire (5) by 117 runs. **Leicestershire**: First Innings 403 (117 runs). **Derbyshire**: First Innings 29 (5 runs).
First Innings: Leicestershire 403 (117 runs), Derbyshire 29 (5 runs).
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One hundred Innings: Leicestershire 117 (33 runs), Derbyshire 29 (5 runs).

Yorkshire v Glamorgan

BRADFORD (third day of four): Yorkshire (40) beat Glamorgan (5) by 117 runs. **Yorkshire**: First Innings 403 (117 runs). **Glamorgan**: First Innings 29 (5 runs).
First Innings: Yorkshire 403 (117 runs), Glamorgan 29 (5 runs).
Second Innings: Yorkshire 117 (33 runs), Glamorgan 29 (5 runs).
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Seventh Innings: Yorkshire 117 (33 runs), Glamorgan 29 (5 runs).
Eighth Innings: Yorkshire 117 (33 runs), Glamorgan 29 (5 runs

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

WORLD LEAGUE: Amsterdam 30 South
Glasgow 15, Barcelona 22 London 27,
Rhein 41 Frankfurt 28

ATHLETICS

BRIMMINGHAM: Inter-national meet:
Men: 100m A: O. Dato (Niger) 10.50, B: D.
Joyce (South) 10.59, 200m D: Turner
(Wales) 21.35, 400m D: Turner 51.47,
800m A: M. Smith (South) 57.10, B: S. Coupland
(Ireland) 1:01.10, 1600m A: A. Hart
(Ireland) 3:52.15, B: J. O'Brien (South)
1:53.02, 3200m A: P. Gibby (South) 8:22.2,
6400m A: M. Smith (South) 17:40, B: D.
Joyce (South) 17:40, 12800m A: N. Cawley
(South) 35:00, B: J. O'Brien (South) 35:00,
25600m A: M. Smith (South) 1:07:20, B: D.
Joyce (South) 1:07:20, 51200m A: P. Gibby
(South) 2:12:15, B: J. O'Brien (South) 2:12:15,
102400m A: M. Smith (South) 4:24:30, B: D.
Joyce (South) 4:24:30, 204800m A: M. Smith
(South) 8:49:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 8:49:00,
409600m A: M. Smith (South) 17:38:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 17:38:00, 819200m A: M. Smith
(South) 35:16:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 35:16:00,
1638400m A: M. Smith (South) 70:32:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 70:32:00, 3276800m A: M. Smith
(South) 140:64:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 140:64:00,
6553600m A: M. Smith (South) 281:28:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 281:28:00, 13107200m A: M. Smith
(South) 562:56:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 562:56:00,
26214400m A: M. Smith (South) 1125:52:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 1125:52:00, 52428800m A: M. Smith
(South) 2251:44:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 2251:44:00,
104857600m A: M. Smith (South) 4503:28:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 4503:28:00, 209715200m A: M. Smith
(South) 9006:56:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 9006:56:00,
419430400m A: M. Smith (South) 18013:52:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 18013:52:00, 838860800m A: M. Smith
(South) 36027:44:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 36027:44:00,
1677721600m A: M. Smith (South) 72055:28:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 72055:28:00, 3355443200m A: M. Smith
(South) 144111:12:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 144111:12:00,
6710886400m A: M. Smith (South) 288222:24:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 288222:24:00, 13421772800m A: M. Smith
(South) 576444:48:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 576444:48:00,
26843545600m A: M. Smith (South) 1152889:36:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 1152889:36:00, 53687091200m A: M. Smith
(South) 2305779:12:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 2305779:12:00,
107374182400m A: M. Smith (South) 4611558:24:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 4611558:24:00, 214748364800m A: M. Smith
(South) 9223116:48:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 9223116:48:00,
429496729600m A: M. Smith (South) 18446233:36:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 18446233:36:00, 858993459200m A: M. Smith
(South) 36892467:12:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 36892467:12:00,
1717986918400m A: M. Smith (South) 73784934:24:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 73784934:24:00, 3435973836800m A: M. Smith
(South) 147569868:48:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 147569868:48:00,
6871947673600m A: M. Smith (South) 295139737:36:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 295139737:36:00, 13743895347200m A: M. Smith
(South) 590279475:12:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 590279475:12:00,
27487790694400m A: M. Smith (South) 1180558950:24:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 1180558950:24:00, 54975581388800m A: M. Smith
(South) 2361117900:48:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 2361117900:48:00,
109951162777600m A: M. Smith (South) 4722235801:36:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 4722235801:36:00, 219902325555200m A: M. Smith
(South) 9444471603:12:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 9444471603:12:00,
439804651110400m A: M. Smith (South) 18888943206:24:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 18888943206:24:00, 879609302220800m A: M. Smith
(South) 37777886413:12:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 37777886413:12:00,
1759218604441600m A: M. Smith (South) 75555772826:24:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 75555772826:24:00, 3518437208883200m A: M. Smith
(South) 151115545552:48:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 151115545552:48:00,
7036874417766400m A: M. Smith (South) 302231111105:36:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 302231111105:36:00, 14073748835532800m A: M. Smith
(South) 604462222211:12:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 604462222211:12:00,
28147497671065600m A: M. Smith (South) 120892444422:24:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 120892444422:24:00, 5629499534212800m A: M. Smith
(South) 241784888844:48:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 241784888844:48:00,
11258998068425600m A: M. Smith (South) 483569777689:36:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 483569777689:36:00, 22517996136851200m A: M. Smith
(South) 967139555378:12:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 967139555378:12:00,
45035992273702400m A: M. Smith (South) 193427911076:24:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 193427911076:24:00, 90071984547404800m A: M. Smith
(South) 386855822153:12:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 386855822153:12:00,
180143968914809600m A: M. Smith (South) 773711644306:24:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 773711644306:24:00, 360287937829612800m A: M. Smith
(South) 154742328861:12:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 154742328861:12:00,
720575875659225600m A: M. Smith (South) 309484657722:24:00, B: D.
Joyce (South) 309484657722:24:00, 1441151751318451200m A: M. Smith
(South) 618969315444:48:00, B: D. Joyce (South) 618969315444:48:00,
2882303502636902400m A: M. Smith (South) 123793863088:36:00, B: D.
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Nottinghamshire boasts fine record in promoting local talent to national stage

Boundary markers of sporting excellence



John Goodbody investigates the links between birthplace and achievement in professional sport

England and Wales have proud traditions of producing fine sportsmen — but where is the richest breeding ground to be found? A survey, which has been carried out for *The Times*, reveals that if you want to increase the chances of your son being a professional footballer, then he should be born in South Yorkshire. If you want him to play county cricket, then he should be born in Somerset.

However, if you want to hedge your bets, try to arrange the birth in Nottinghamshire, which has the best average record for producing outstanding players in England's two national team games.

The survey, which relates appearances in first-class cricket and football to county populations, shows that East Anglia lags behind other regions. Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and even Essex are all below the national average in producing talent.

The success rates are radically different for the two games. In cricket, Somerset comes off best with Buckinghamshire third. But both counties are in the bottom five for football. This contrasts with the North of England and North Wales, where the counties that score well at football are generally marked low for cricket. North Yorkshire proving the notable exception.

In football, the criterion for selection is at least one appearance in the Carling Premiership or Endleigh Leagues in season 1993-94, achieved by a total of 2,066 players. The county populations have been taken from the 1971 census.

In cricket, the survey takes in players born since 1950 who have made at least one appearance in the first-class game — a total of 958. The county populations are taken from the 1961 census.

The "per capita rate", listed on the adjoining ranking lists, signifies the number of players born in a county per 100,000 population. The "per capita index" shows how each county compares with the average figure for England and Wales, which is given the value of 100. So the Somerset index of 265 means that Somerset produces first-class cricketers at a rate 2.65 times the national average.

Together with the North-East, which supplies three of the top five placings, Yorkshire has always been a breeding ground of leading footballers. David Seaman, the Arsenal and England goalkeeper, is one example.

Clive Baker, the director of youth coaching at Sheffield Wednesday, recalls when Sunday games were marked by continuous games on waste ground, with players joining and leaving the game at will.

There always was this tradition and it stemmed from the fact that there was not a lot of money about and not much else to do," he said. "Times have changed but South Yorkshire remains a stronghold of Sunday football. Kids are brought up on football hereabouts. It is a way of life."

"Now we have centres of excellence. At Sheffield Wednesday, we have up to 40 kids, who are specially selected for training twice a week. We also have 'conference' games against youngsters of other local clubs like Sheffield United and Barnsley. There are no trophies and no pressure on the lads. We can field players at will, substitute them and re-substitute them if necessary."

'Kids are brought up on football. It's a way of life here'

United paid a British record £7 million this year, and Chris Sutton, the £5 million Blackburn Rovers striker, were both born within the county.

Mike Raynor, the Forest youth development officer for the past 12 years, said: "We have a happy spirit here and we do emphasise the educational side. Players have come through the youth policy and there is a real emphasis on producing our own material."

"We have a large community programme and were one of the leaders of 'conference' football. In addition, we have four training sessions a week, with youngsters from the ages of ten to 16 training at the club."

The production of cricketers from Nottinghamshire is also not surprising, given that England's famous fast-bowling partners, Harold Larwood and Bill Voce, were both born in the county. Bruce French, the wicketkeeper, was the last Nottinghamshire-born player to be recognised by England at Test level while three of the current county squad — Andrew Pick, Paul Pollard and Robert Chapman — are locally born. David Millns, who plays for Leicestershire, and Kevin Cooper, now with Gloucestershire, also hail from Nottinghamshire.

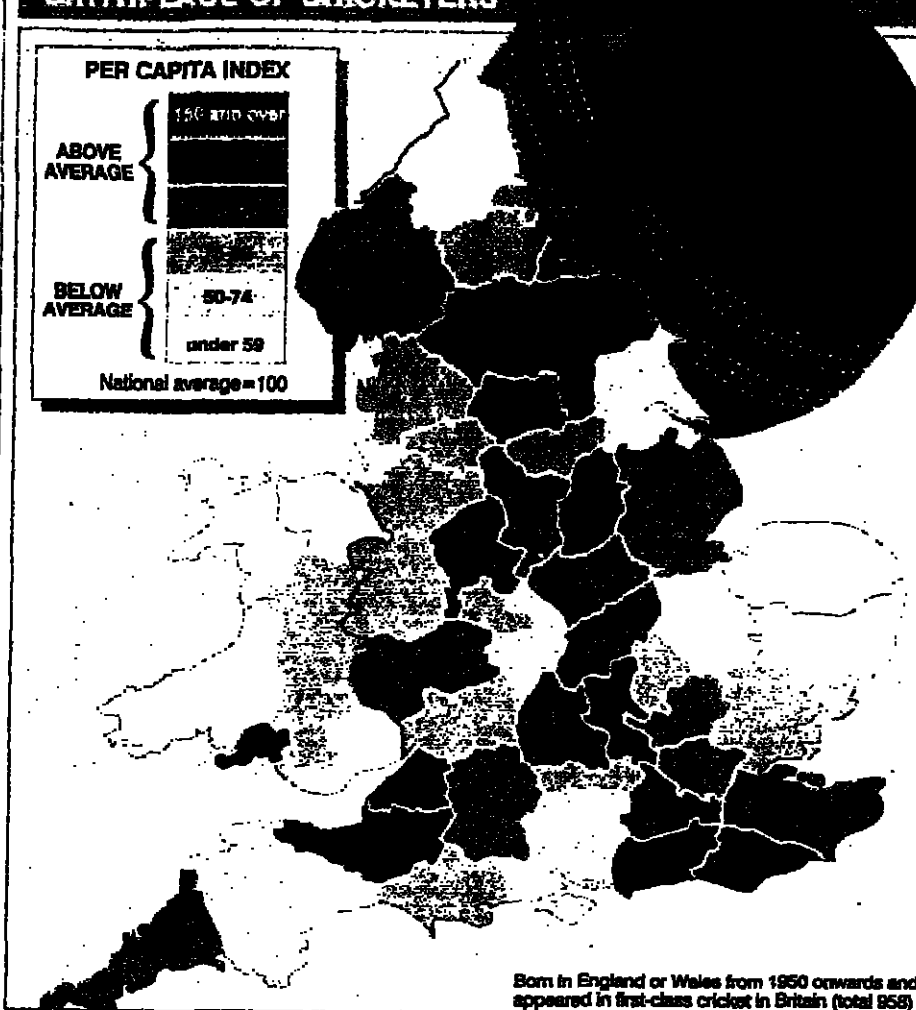
Bob Miller, the assistant director of leisure services for Nottingham County Council, said: "There is a good development programme for cricket, which has been copied by other counties. Members of the county team go into the schools during the winter. We also have a cricket festival and mini-cricket festival for youngsters during the summer."

"The county team also had two outstanding role models during the 1980s, Richard Hadlee and Clive Rice, just as it was beginning this initiative. This is now bringing results with youngsters coming into the county side."

Miller pointed out that Nottinghamshire was not just renowned for the two national team games. "We have over 80 people who have represented Britain at senior or junior level in other sports, including the rowers and canoeists, who train at Holme Pierrepont, and the international swimmers at Notts Cantaria."

Somerset's flow of professional cricketers — Richard Haden, Harvey Truitt, Jeremy Hallett, Keith Parsons and Matthew Dimond of the

BIRTHPLACE OF CRICKETERS



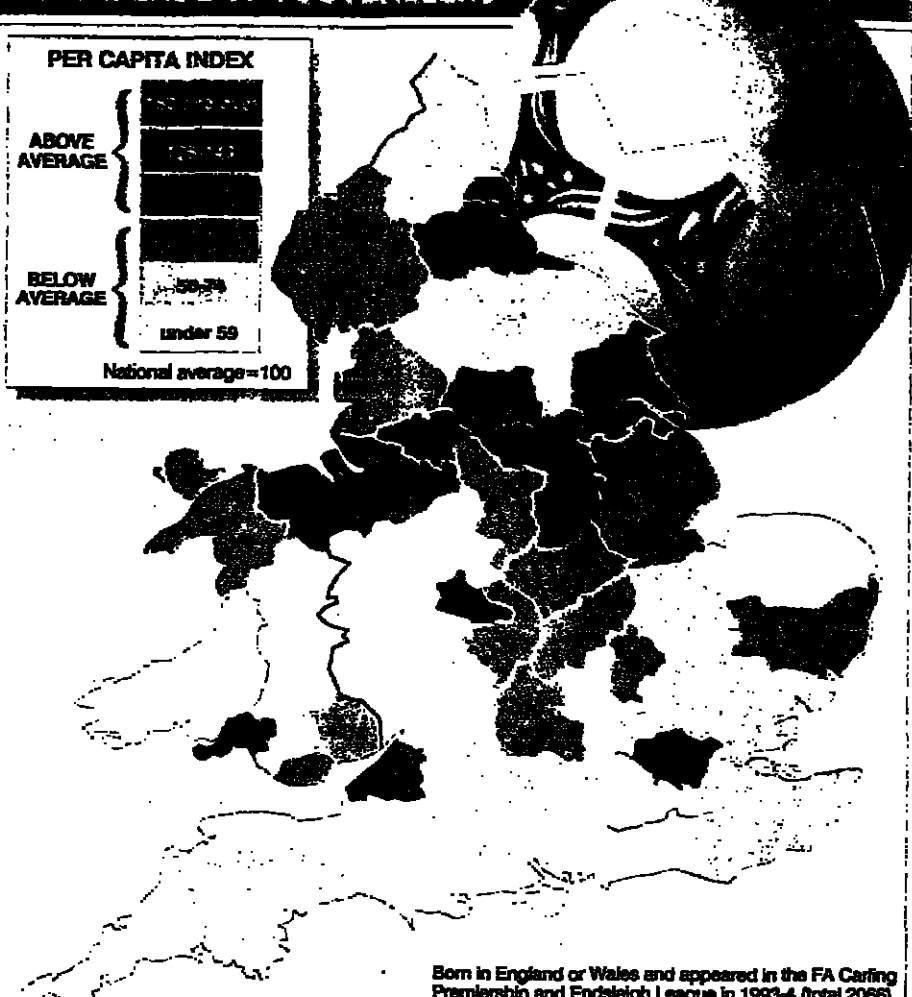
Rank	County of birth	Players	Per capita rate	Per capita index	Rank	County of birth	Players	Per capita rate	Per capita index
1	Somerset	19	5.99	265	28	North Yorkshire	10	1.93	93
2	West Glamorgan	17	4.64	223	29	Cheshire	14	1.92	92
3	Buckinghamshire	15	3.97	191	30	Gloucestershire	8	1.88	90
4	Nottinghamshire	32	3.55	171	31	Tyne and Wear	23	1.85	89
5	Worcestershire	28	3.20	168	32	Essex	18	1.72	85
6	West Sussex	16	3.25	166	33	West Midlands	47	1.72	85
7	North Yorkshire	18	3.13	157	34	South Yorkshire	22	1.69	81
8	East Sussex	18	3.07	148	35	Shropshire	5	1.68	81
9	Nottinghamshire	12	3.01	145	36	Leicestershire	2	1.67	80
10	Derbyshire	12	2.99	143	37	Derby	5	1.60	77
11	Gloucestershire	26	2.87	138	38	Northamptonshire	2	1.58	76
12	Kent	33	2.75	133	39	Bedfordshire	5	1.57	75
13	South Yorkshire	33	2.59	127	40	Warwickshire	7	1.53	73
14	Staffordshire	22	2.59	125	41	Devon	11	1.34	64
15	Gloucestershire	19	2.57	123	42	Wiltshire	2	1.30	63
16	Hampshire	20	2.54	122	43	Worcestershire	5	1.29	62
17	Gloucestershire	10	2.38	114	44	Gloucestershire	2	1.26	51
18	Cornwall	5	2.33	112	45	Isle of Wight	1	1.04	50
19	Cleveland	12	2.28	110	46	Wiltshire	3	0.95	48
20	London	192	2.28	110	47	Gloucestershire	2	0.94	45
21	Derbyshire	11	2.26	108	48	Northamptonshire	18	0.93	36
22	Hampshire	11	2.24	109	49	Cambridgeshire	4	0.92	44
23	Gloucestershire	10	2.19	108	50	Wiltshire	3	0.89	43
24	Cumbria	10	2.15	102	51	Northamptonshire	2	0.73	35
25	Derbyshire	12	2.12	102	52	Northamptonshire	3	0.71	34
26	Devon	2	1.96	94	53	Suffolk	3	0.64	31
27	Gloucestershire	10	1.94	93	54	Gloucestershire	2	0.62	30

CRITERIA: Because there are more professional footballers than cricketers, criteria for inclusion in the two surveys were different. Had only one season been used for cricket, too few players would have been included for significant county rates to be calculated. The per capita rate and per capita index allow for the different county populations.

PER CAPITA RATE: signifies the number of players born in a county per 100,000 population taken from the 1961 census (1971 in the case of footballers).

PER CAPITA INDEX: measures how each county compares with the average figure for England and Wales, which is given the value of 100. For example, the per capita index of 265 for Somerset in the cricketers table means that Somerset produces first-class players at a rate 2.65 times the national average. Lancashire's index of 80 means that it is 20 per cent below the national average.

BIRTHPLACE OF FOOTBALLERS



Rank	County of birth	Players	Per capita rate	Per capita index	Rank	County of birth	Players	Per capita rate	Per capita index
1	South Yorkshire	129	6.90	219	28	Staffordshire	17	3.18	75
2	Cleveland	82	6.16	216	29	North Yorkshire	29	3.14	74
3	Nottinghamshire	142	6.57	202	30	Derby	28	3.12	74
4	Derbyshire	40	6.57	202	31	Hampshire	42	3.06	72
5	Tyne and Wear	83	6.56	199	32	Westwood & Worcester	17	3.04	72
6	Nottinghamshire	64	6.57	195	33	North Yorkshire	19	3.03	71
7	West Glamorgan	22	6.88	198	34	Derbyshire	19	3.01	71
8	Ches	20	6.58	198	35	Shropshire	10	2.97	70
9	Gloucestershire	195	6.58	192	36	Essex	40	2.98	70
10	Gloucestershire	148	6.42	192	37	Northumberland	8	2.96	68
11	Cheshire	41	6.73	192	38	Wiltshire	13	2.97	68
12	Cheshire	41	6.73	192	39	Mid Glamorgan	14	2.83	62
13	Nottinghamshire	62	6.72	191	40	Gloucestershire	18	2.87	61
14	Nottinghamshire	39	6.55	190	41	Kent	33	2.86	58
15	Nottinghamshire	38	6.45	190	42	East Sussex	12	2.76	51
16	Derbyshire	9	6.08	188	43	East Sussex	14	2.76	51
17	Gloucestershire	61	6.78	192	44	Essex	2	2.62	48
18	South Glamorgan	14	6.59	185	45	Surrey	19	1.90	45
19	Gloucestershire	14	6.57	184	46	Isle of Wight	2	1.82	43
20	Derbyshire	31	6.50	183	47	Staffordshire	17	1.76	41
21	Derbyshire	15	6.45	183	48	Staffordshire	17	1.76	41
22	Northamptonshire	15	6.41	181	49	Gloucestershire	5	1.67	25
23	Gloucestershire	37	6.41	180	50	Gloucestershire	4	1.64	24
24	Cumbria	15	6.36	178	51	Buckinghamshire	4	0.84	20
25	Gloucestershire	35	6.29	178	52	Gloucestershire	3	0.78	18
26	Leicestershire	25	6.25	177	53	Dyfed	2	0.63	15
27	Gloucestershire	14	6.17	175	54	Gloucestershire	2	0.38	10

CRITERIA: Because there are more professional footballers than cricketers, criteria for inclusion in the two surveys were different. Had only one season been used for cricket, too few players would have been included for significant county rates to be calculated. The per capita rate and per capita index allow for the different county populations.

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DATA: RICHARD POLLARD



French and Trump, wicketkeeper and bowler, who play for the counties in which they were born



Seaman and Cole, goalkeeper and striker, from areas renowned for producing leading sportsmen



Seaman and Cole, goalkeeper and striker, from areas renowned for producing leading sportsmen



Seaman and Cole, goalkeeper and striker, from areas renowned for producing leading sportsmen

Fighting for a view dilutes 'feel-good' factor

Oliver Holt joins the crowds intent on seeing the world's leading woman player in action

It was a day when everything seemed rosy in the Garden of England. Even the drive to Chart Hills golf club was a joy. Not much traffic on the M25, a minor miracle in itself, and then a short hop across Kent in the crisp of early morning, through the picturesque villages of Goudhurst and Biddenden to the site of the women's Ford Classic.

Journey over, there followed an event of more wonderment: an encounter with that rare species, the good-humoured, happy car park attendant. Not just one either, but several of the chief parker's colleagues, generous with their directions and their bonhomie. Perhaps they are indigenous to Kent.

It was a short walk to the club and there was no queue to get in. Once through the main gates, the first sight was of a long line of golfers hitting mighty shots in my direction, swinging relentlessly, trying to get the shanks, the hooks and the slices out of the system and appearing to be succeeding.

This was a new experience for me, the first golf tournament for the first time and being

struck by the fact that it was essentially just like all the small junior tennis tournaments I had played in, that it was a competition not just a spectacle, so this, too, was a thrill.

Watching golf on television is a piecemeal, disjointed affair, flitting from hole to hole, pairing to pairing, never really being allowed to fix on one player's progress and lose

yourself in the drama of their personal struggle. At Chart Hills on Saturday, particularly before Laura Davies teed off in mid-morning, it was different.

Armed with a bread roll groaning with grilled bacon that kept me occupied until the second green, I set off with the day's first pairing, Fiona Pike and Gillian Stewart, who had barely made the cut the night

before. They both hit perfect drives off the 1st tee, prompting gasps of awe from the small crowd. It suggested some were new, if willing, converts to women's golf.

They both made birdies on the 1st and when Stewart hit her approach shot to the 2nd into a deep, lovingly raked bunker, I already felt loyal enough to be disappointed for her. When she chipped out in a flail of sand, straight into the hole with one bounce, those of us who had not crept back to the 1st to await the arrival of Davies felt like lucky mascots.

In the end I succumbed, too, and abandoned them for a sighting of the woman who is acknowledged as the leading female player in the world. It was the most exercise I have had since I ran for the No 6 bus in London some time in January, something else that contributed to the "feel-good" factor still welling up inside me.

The only downside, really, was that the course mirrored the characteristics of its designer, Nick Faldo. It tried hard with untidy woods here and there and the odd half-hearted lake but it was syn-

Needy England fight back

By RICHARD EATON

ENGLAND'S thrilling comeback from the edge of defeat and the verge of relegation produced a loud call for more money from the manager, Clive Ingham, a nerve-racking revenge for Darren Hall and a triumphant return for Gillian Gowers, who helped to complete the 3-2 win over Thailand at the world badminton championships in Lausanne late on Saturday night.

The recovery from 2-0 down ensured England will be in the top group of the Sudirman Cup team event when the next world championships are held in Glasgow in 1997 and also provided a platform for Ingham to make a perennial plea for better funding.

"If we had half the money of the leading countries we would do very well," Ingham said. "This was a brave performance, and I was proud of the way we fought back."

"Some of our players have received plenty of criticism over the past couple of years and this proves we are still good enough to compete at a high level." England's chances of staying among the elite

looked to have disappeared when the European men's doubles champions, Chris Hunt and Simon Archer, were beaten in three games by the world eighth-ranked pair of Thongchai and Teerawattana to give the Asians a 2-0 lead.

The fightback was begun by Julie Bradbury and Joanne Wright, whose win over Piangvech and Boonyarat may increase their belief that they can win a women's doubles medal in individual events

last year's All England mixed doubles champion, Nick Ponting, went down with sinus problems. She and Hunt beat Siripong and Boonyarat 15-6, 15-8, giving Gowers some compensation for being omitted from the Commonwealth Games.

Susi Susanti, of Indonesia, the Olympic and world champion, regarded by some as the greatest women's player, suffered a startling 3-1, 11-5, 11-5 defeat by the Asian Games champion, Bang Soo-Hyun. However, Indonesia still beat the holders, South Korea, to reach the final.



Hall: beat Kukasemkij

John Goodbody submits to judo, one of the sports at which Britons excel and a true test of mind and body

Throw yourself into a new way of life

Judo is not just Britain's most successful sport over the past six Olympic Games. The fighters jostling for supremacy at the European Championships (which ended in Birmingham last week) were just the elite, accustomed to hours of practice, lifting weights and running up and down hills carrying logs on their backs. Beneath them, sometimes literally, during training, are thousands of other people for whom the Japanese martial art is an engrossing contrast to the pressure of their work and studies. For children, too, it is ideal as a method of physical education, formalising the rough-and-tumble of play. Many people become so enamoured with the activity that they develop an interest in the Japanese language and culture and visit the country where, in the late 19th century, Dr Jigoro Kano developed

SPORT FOR ALL

judo from the ancient self-defence styles of jujitsu.

The typically British judo product is Terence Donovan, the fashion photographer. "If I am away on location abroad for longer than a week, I get edgy," he says. "I need to have a pull-around."

"In judo, there is no shield. There is immediate physical contact. You learn about yourself when you are faced by an enormous bloke with every other tooth missing, salivating at the thought of pushing you through the mat."

However, sessions, particularly those involving children, are carefully controlled. There is none of the spontaneous violence and unpleasant fouling which mars so many sports, simply because the aggression in judo is channelled into the activity. The fighters also practise with partners of a suitable size — there are seven weight categories for men and women — and ability. Men and women sometimes practise together in clubs but seldom in elite training sessions.

Judo benefits from a special grading system. The kit, which is like a loose-fitting suit without buttons or zips, is fastened by a belt, the colour of which denotes the holder's expertise. There are the *kyu* (or pupil) grades — white, yellow, orange, green, blue and brown — and the *dan* (degree) grades, beginning with a first dan black belt. Improvement is judged at gradings, when fighting ability and technical knowledge are assessed. Contests are won outright by throwing an opponent cleanly on his back, holding him immobile or forcing him to submit to armlock or strangle hold. Armlocks and strangles are banned in competition for anyone below the age of 16 and everyone is taught to fall safely.

The Japanese had always propagated the theory that size was immaterial to the sport.



"In judo, there is immediate physical contact. You learn about yourself." A British fighter and his Italian opponent get to grips in an under-18 schools international at Crystal Palace Sports Centre



Black belt Terence Donovan throws John Goodbody

But a Dutchman, Anton Geesink, destroyed that engaging idea, which lured thousands of small men eager to take revenge on bullies. Geesink was not only big — 6ft 6in and 20 stone — but extremely skilful. In the most celebrated moment in the sport, the 1964 Olympic final in Tokyo, he held down the 16 stone all-Japan champion Akio Kaminaga while his teammates openly cried on the edge of the mat.

Muscle bulk does help in open combat, but Donovan practised for years with Neil

Adams, the British team manager and former world lightweight champion, who was almost half his size. "I never moved him," Donovan says. "The principle of judo is simple. If A and B are pushing towards each other then A reverses and so adds B's strength to his own because he is moving two forces in the same direction. Instead of resisting, he harnesses his opponent's strength."

"This does not mean that judo is not physically demanding. Donovan terms it 'ferociously energetic. For the first

six months of training the only thing I could move when I woke up was my eyelids." Fighters spend hours building up strength, stamina, subtlety and skills; rehearsing throws and then trying to carry them out in combat situations. They learn to block and counter throws, skate from holds and strangles.

Judo is, of course, an excellent method of self-defence. Donovan was once attacked, in Rome, by a group of muggers. He subdued them — and people in a bus queue nearby applauded. Many people are also attracted by the Japanese tradition of developing mental as well as physical excellence. A prime example is Trevor Leggett, a venerated eighth dan who writes and speaks Japanese fluently. He is president of the Budokwai in south Kensington, London, where Donovan trains. Leggett has always tried to encourage his pupils to acquire an understanding of Japanese culture and history. After all, the techniques and instructions are in Japanese, so an ambience is created to encourage links with the Orient. So is respect between opponents, who bow to each other ceremoniously before and after contests.

"Parents like judo because of the discipline it brings to their children," Donovan says. For many youngsters, the sport will lead them to a lifetime of physical and mental exploration.



Self-defence as fun

JUDO is a cheap sport to pursue, but it is important to join a club that is a member of the British Judo Association (BJA). This helps to ensure that the instruction you receive is to the correct standard.

Write to the BJA, 7a Rutland St, Leicester, LE1 1RB (telephone 0116-255 9669 or fax 0116-255 9660) for a list of the clubs in your area. Many have special tuition for beginners and children.

FACT BOX

□ The Budokwai, 4 Giltspur St, South Kensington, London SW10 (telephone 0171-770 1000 or 2058) is the oldest and the best-known club in Europe, the producer of many internationals.

It charges an annual membership fee of £45 for seniors and £35 for juniors with seniors paying a further £3 for each visit and juniors £2.

Smaller clubs often charge less.

□ To compete in either a championship or a grading, the fighter needs a BJA licence, which costs £18.50 for a senior and £11 for a junior.

□ The only other outlay is for a suit (*a judogi*) which can often be obtained second-hand. The cost of the suit begins at £10 for a child's size and £30 for an adult's.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Bridge lost one of its greatest players when Giorgio Belladonna died ten days ago. His record in top-level tournament play was unsurpassed, with three wins in the World Olympiad Teams and no fewer than thirteen in the Bermuda Bowl between 1957 and 1975. He was the only player to have participated in all sixteen Italian world victories.

This deal occurred towards the end of the final of the 1975 Bermuda Bowl (Italy against North America):

Dealer East	North-South game	Teams
♠ 7852	♠ QJ8	♠ 43
♥ K432	♥ A1965	♥ Q1087
♦ J53	♦ K82	♦ Q1064
♣ K10	♣ A9	♣ 764
	♠ AK109	
	♥ A97	
	♦ J8532	

Contract: Seven Clubs. Lead: the two of spades

Belladonna (South) and his partner, Benito Garozzo, reached the clearly unsound grand slam in clubs after eight rounds of bidding. You must, however, bear the tactical situation in mind. Italy had, at the half-way stage, trailed by no fewer than 77 IMPs and had staged a magnificent recovery to near equality.

According to contemporary reports, Belladonna's normally impassive face was a mixture of despair and anguish as he viewed dummy. With the fortunate line of the trumps, however, all thirteen tricks were made and Italy went on to win the match. At the other table the contract had been Six No-Trumps — again not the

best spot, but safe enough as the cards lay.

In fact there had been scope for the defenders against the grand slam. Suppose Eddie Kantar, as West, had followed to the first trump lead with the king? (He actually played the ten.) Would declarer have placed East with 10 7 6 4, and tried to pick up the ten with a trump reduction play? Giorgio was asked afterwards what would have happened. His reply was: "The North Americans would be world champions today."

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Genius defeated

In the much heralded showdown between Garry Kasparov and the Pentium Genius in Cologne at the weekend, the world champion defeated the silicon brain by one win and one draw in a two game match. The Pentium Genius, programmed by Richard Lang, the British computer expert, had sensationally defeated Kasparov by the same score in a tournament in London last year. The computer is able to analyse over 6 million positions per minute. Kasparov's win in the first game came about as a result of his ability to exploit the computer's greed for material. Richard Lang claimed that his program could have won the game and indeed on move 23 the computer could have played 23... Qb3 while on move 25 its desire to snatch pawns led it into difficulties when 25... Qa2 would have preserved its advantage. Thereafter, although the computer was several pawns ahead Kasparov's grip on the position proved to be decisive. White: Garry Kasparov. Black: Intel Pentium. Cologne, May 1995

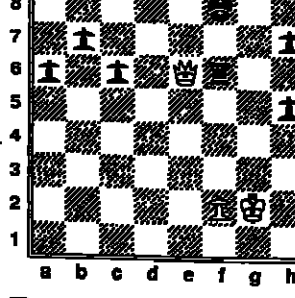
Slav Defence

1 c4	c5
2 d4	c5
3 Nf3	Nf6
4 Nc3	a6
5 e5	g6
6 Bf4	Bg7
7 h3	O-O

8 e3	Nbd7
9 Bc1	Ne8
10 Rc1	f6
11 e4	e5
12 dxe5	Nxc5
13 exd5	h5
14 Bc3	Nxd3+
15 Qxd3	e4
16 Qxd4	Nf6
17 Qc4	Nd5
18 Nxd5	Be6
19 O-O	Bxd5
20 Qg4	Bd3
21 g4	Qd5
22 Rcd1	Qa2
23 Rd7	R7
24 Rd1	Qb3
25 Rd3	Qb2
26 Qc4	Ra8
27 Rd7	Rd7
28 Rd8+	Bf8
29 Bf6	Qa3
30 Qe6	Qc5
31 f4	Qb4
32 f4	Qb4
33 Kh2	Qb4
34 Kg2	Qb4
35 h5	g5
36 f5	Qb4
37 Rd8+	Qd8
38 Bf8	Kd8
39 f6	Rd8

Black resigns

Diagram of final position



□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

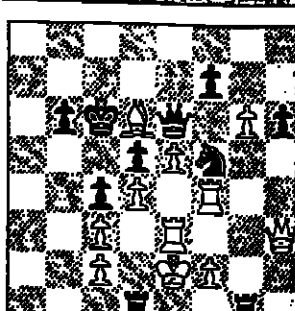
- FLABELLATION
- a. Middle-aged spread
- b. Rumour
- c. Fanning
- VERMIAN
- a. Worm-like
- b. A purple cuttlefish pigment
- c. Corrupt

- GLABROUS
- a. Hairless
- b. Flattering
- c. Fatty
- QUEER PLUNGER
- a. A gay bird
- b. A confidence trickster
- c. A synchronised swimmer

Answers on page 40

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Smyslov - Botvinnik, Leningrad 1941. Black could content himself with capturing the white rook on e3 with his knight but he actually has a much stronger continuation. Can you see it?



Solution, page 40

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CV (3 copies), complete with the names and addresses of 2 referees, should be sent to Personnel Services, The University, Dundee, DD1 4HN. Tel: (01382) 344015. Further Particulars are available for this post. Please quote reference EST/517/45/TT. Closing date: 9 June 1995.

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The duties include managing the finances of King's School, along with the Junior and Pre-preparatory Schools at Hockgrove House, Sparford, preparing budgets, reporting to the Governors and supervising maintenance of buildings, equipment, grounds, and playing fields at both Bruton and Sparford.

Further details about the appointment and method of application may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors, King's School, Bruton, Somerset, BA10 0D. (Tel: 01748 813328)

The closing date for applications is 2nd June 1995.

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● The author is deputy director of the Strathclyde Graduate Business School

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Further particulars, containing details of the duties and full range of emoluments, may be obtained from the Secretary of the Department of Modern History Faculty, Brook Street, Oxford, OX1 3PS (telephone 01865 277253), to whom applicants should send ten copies of their application (except for overseas candidates, who need send only one) by 15 June 1984. At the request of the selection committee, to avoid the possibility of correspondence difficulties during the vacation, candidates are asked to arrange for three references to be sent to the above address by the closing date.

The University seeks to promote excellence in education and research.



A RECENT LinguaTel survey revealed that 74 per cent of calls in French, German or Italian to the Swedish Council's main list of exporting companies were abandoned, resulting in lost sales. One Scottish school is doing its best to make sure that its pupils, at least, will be language-literate.

Most schools have foreign exchanges. Trinity Academy, Edinburgh, has gone several steps further: it offers its students — and those from exchange schools in France, Holland, Denmark and Sweden — foreign work experience, with the aim of turning them all into participating Europeans.

Brain, the academy's European co-ordinator, spends much of her time matching the students' career interests with work experience. One Scottish student, for

example, spent time at a hospital in Holland. "Today I watched three operations," her report reads, and goes on to describe a dissection of a third (rather good) operation: "the sight of blood no longer worried her. Now she is studying medicine at Aberdeen University. Other Scottish students have played professional football in Denmark, and worked in newspapers, radio stations and local government. In return, a Dutch student was found a place with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, and other placements for foreign students have been made in engineering and commerce, the police, air traffic control, a veterinary practice, a distillery, a shoe factory, a botanical gardens and a hospital."

"The European Community is not for the exclusive use of the academically gifted," says Peter Galloway,

the school's headmaster. "Our programme allows all of our students experience different trades and professions so that they will gain confidence sufficiently to work in any of the professions that exist here, live there as Europeans, which is what they are. For too long the chattering classes have hijacked the debate. Europe is now a reality and we must grasp the opportunity to be part of it."

Dutch, Swedish and Danish are not formally taught in the academy, although French is. But special classes are provided to equip the students with conversational and survival skills, so they can quickly learn how to communicate. Joint educational projects are encouraged before the exchanges take place. Working on a common theme, the students study the effects of war, disposal, pollution or how local

government works in their own countries, and are able to compare authoritative notes when they finally meet.

Fin modelist beginnings in 1991 the programme has expanded beyond recognition, and won the school a £1,000 Department of Trade and Industry prize last month. "Communicating across cultural barriers," said Sir Peter Parker, who presented the award, "means entering the mindset, and even the heart, of other peoples — understanding what makes them tick."

The five primary feeder schools to Trinity Academy are now beginning a project that links them to Europe. At the school they are following the lives of a fictitious Italian family moving into the area.

GEORGE TURNBULL

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RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Albion, Dunedin Smaller Companies, Kinnick, Lyrx, National Home Loans, Whessoe. Finals: British Airways, Cranswick, Independent Parts, London Clubs International, Seton Healthcare, Skitchley, Warrford Investments. Economic statistics: Balance of trade with countries outside EC (April).

TOMORROW

Interims: Archimedes Investment Trust, Fairline Boats, Hozelock, McLeod Russell, M&G Income Investment Trust, Sanderson Electronics, Tinstall. Finals: British & American Film, British Investment Trust, AF Bulgin, El Oro Mining & Exploration, Exploration Company, Jarvis Porter, JVC, Marks & Spencer, M&G Recovery Investment Trust, North West Water, Pioneer Electronic, Readicut International, Suzuki Motor, TDK, Thom EMI, Toyota Motor.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Archer Group, Bass, Care UK, Carlson Communications, Countywide Properties, Dunedin Worldwide Investment Trust, Fenchurch, H Young Holdings. Finals: Argyll Group, Courtlands, Finsbury Trust, Foreign & Colonial Private Equity, Hoare Govett Smaller Companies, Hoare Govett 1000 Index, Land Securities, Merchant Retail Group, National Grid Co/National Grid Holding, Shires Investment, VSEL, Young & Co's Brewery. Economic statistics: UK output, income, and expenditure (Q2).

THURSDAY

Interims: Acasos & Hutchison, City of London PR, Metro Radio, Morland, SEP Industries, J Smart, Jarrold Smith Estates. Finals: Atkins Group, Bristol Evening Post, Cable and Wireless, Channel Holdings, MacDonald Martin Distillers, Martin Currie Euro Investment, NEC, Parkside International, PowerGen, Scottish Investment Trust, South West Water, Southnews, Storehouse, TR Property Investment Trust. Economic statistics: Capital expenditure (Q1 - provisional), stocks and work in progress (Q1 - provisional), energy trends (March), new vehicle registrations (April).

FRIDAY

Interims: Dobson Park Industries, Minstergate, Ockham, Wolverhampton & Dudley, Flaxs, Castings, Chamberlain & Hill, Lazard Select Investment Trust, Mercury European Privatisation Trust, Wembley. Economic statistics: CBI monthly trends enquiry (May), engineering sales and orders at current and constant prices (March).

COMPANIES



PHILIP PANGALOS

BA on line for 50% rise in profits



Sir Colin Marshall is expected to predict an encouraging outlook for British Airways

BRITISH AIRWAYS: As the results season takes off, British Airways is expected to announce sharply higher profits after strong traffic growth.

Final pre-tax profits to March 31, due today, are forecast to jump by 50 per cent to £453 million (£301 million), according to Mike Powell, of NatWest Securities. Market expectations range from £450 million to £485 million. A dividend of 12.2p (11.1p) is forecast.

Outstanding traffic growth has driven BA's success, with total revenue tonne kilometres up by a better than expected 7.8 per cent for the year. Sir Colin Marshall, chairman, is expected to predict an encouraging outlook for BA.

NatWest said a corresponding improvement in load factors had reduced the need for discounting and, together with the improvement in passenger mix seen earlier in the year, would have pushed yields upwards. With about 25 per cent of costs denominated in dollars, recent dollar weakness will also have benefited BA, mainly in terms of fuel, leases and interest costs.

The group's main headache, USAir, its American associate, is showing encouraging signs and any writedown should be academic. "Fortunes at USAir are improving quite rapidly," Mr Powell said. Profitability is thought to be improving at Qantas, the Australian airline where BA has a 25 per cent stake, while privatisation is being speeded up and foreign ownership limits are being lifted to 49 per cent, meaning more shares can be sold to international investors. However, TAT and Deutsche BA could contribute combined losses of £70 million.

MARKS & SPENCER: Britain's biggest clothing retailer and an indicator for the high street's health, is expected to unveil another respectable set of profits when it reports annual results tomorrow, although there are concerns that they may fall short of the market's best hopes.

Julie Ramshaw, of Morgan Stanley, the American securities house, has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £955 million (£851.5 million), with an improved dividend of 10.2p (9.2p) predicted. Market forecasts range from £940 million to £960 million. The run-up to Christmas saw M&S enjoy booming food sales, al-

though trade in other areas in the autumn was relatively weak.

NORTH WEST WATER: The privatised water companies' reporting season kicks off tomorrow with figures from North West Water. UBS is looking for final pre-tax profits to advance to £284 million (£269 million), with a dividend of 25.05p (23.07p) predicted. North West has said already that it will be paying a special dividend of 3.75p, complete with rebates to customers, after finding savings on investments of about £400 million.

THORN EMI: Annual results from Thorn EMI, due tomorrow, should be music to investors' ears, with profits forecast to leap

to £420 million (£344.2 million), according to NatWest. A dividend of 37p (34p) is predicted. Market forecasts range from £400 million to £430 million.

ARGYLL: UBS thinks business is good at the Sainsbury supermarket chain, with trading on a like-for-like basis thought to be up by at least 3 per cent, while cost savings should also provide a boost in the future. Final pre-tax profits, due on Wednesday, are expected to climb to £370 million (£368 million), with a dividend of 11.9p (11.5p) expected. Market forecasts range from £369 million to £390 million.

BASS: On Wednesday, the brewing and hotels group should

unveil improved profits led by its pubs and Holiday Inns hotel chain, but held back by relatively flat performances from UK brewing and leisure.

Kleinwort Benson expects Bass to turn in interim pre-tax profits of £260 million (£242 million). Forecasts range from £245 million to £260 million. Bright spots should include the success of its Caffrey's Irish ale and its distribution deal for Grolsch in the UK. Pub profits should grow after increased food sales, a rise in rental increases from Bass's leased pub estate, and a lower cost base as employee numbers continue to fall.

Holiday Inns should see a strong performance in dollar terms, but the increase in sterling

will be restrained by dollar weakness. Profits from leisure are seen as flat, with bingo, Coral betting shops, and gaming machine businesses likely to have been hit by the National Lottery.

CABLE AND WIRELESS: Annual results on Thursday from the communications group will have been savaged by a string of one-off exceptional costs, which will lead to a slide in headline earnings, although attention will focus on progress at Mercury.

Jim Ross, of ABN Amro Hoare Govett, expects final pre-tax profits of £820 million (£1.09 billion), with profits dentied by a £120 million restructuring charge and a £178 million goodwill write-off.

Mr Ross says attention will focus on the trading performance of the UK Mercury operation, which ran into difficulties last year. Duncan Lewis, Mercury's chief executive, is expected to report that the restructuring programme, announced last December, is running ahead of schedule. Restructuring benefits are expected to boost profits by £50 million in 1995-96 and by a further £20 million the next year.

Hong Kong Telecom results were in line with expectations, but the pace of growth in call volumes to and from China may be slowing. However, the Caribbean and US operations are seeing strong growth.

STOREHOUSE: A bumper Christmas should help the BHS to Mothercare retailing chain to report a jump in final pre-tax profits, due on Thursday, to about £89 million (£68.8 million), according to Morgan Stanley. A dividend of 6.3p (5.5p) is predicted. Market forecasts range from £86 million to £90 million.

BHS is likely to have pushed up gross margins as a result of improved stock control, which has reduced markdowns. Profits at the division are expected to rise to £69 million (£56 million). Profits at Mothercare are likely to climb to £16.5 million (£10 million).

POWERGEN: Analysts expect non-recurring profits from high pool prices to help the power generator to turn in final pre-tax profits of between £507 million and £515 million, compared with £476 million last time. A dividend of 15.0p (12.65p) has been forecast.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Moment of truth on GDP

The key British statistic this week is Wednesday's revision of preliminary figures for first-quarter growth. These lie at the heart of the current debate between the Chancellor and the Bank of England.

Kenneth Clarke, holding a press conference to explain why he did not raise interest rates after the May monetary meeting, said he found the surprisingly strong 0.8 per cent rise in preliminary figures puzzling. The Bank of England, in contrast, said it had no reason to doubt the accuracy of the figures.

The consensus City forecast is that the preliminary figures will be unrevised, leaving growth of gross domestic product at 0.8 per cent in the quarter, an annual rate of growth of 3.9 per cent. It is an open question what this would imply about the decisions to be made at the next monetary meeting on June 7. On balance, an unchanged figure would probably leave the City looking for another half-point rise in interest rates despite last week's evidence of weakness on the high street with retail sales volumes falling in March and April.

Other British statistics this week include today's non-European Union trade balance for April, which is expected to show a deficit of some £300 million compared with March's shortfall of £263 million.

On Friday, the Confederation of British Industry's latest monthly trends inquiry will give the latest snapshot of economic activity. There is particular consternation about the divergence between relatively buoyant CBI surveys and much more downbeat official statistics.

The other key focus this week is the meeting tomorrow and Wednesday of the US Federal Open Market Committee. There is a strong consensus that the Fed will leave interest rates unchanged with plenty of evidence that the US economy is slowing to a more sustainable pace.

There will also be interest in the latest inflation indicators from Japan and Germany, both suffering from strong currencies. Japan consumer prices came out on Friday and are expected to remain negative while German cost of living indices are predicted to have fallen.

JANET BUSH

The Sunday Times: Buy IWP, Cranswick, The Observer, Buy Iceland, Cranswick, Sell Blue Circle, Independent on Sunday, Buy Carlton Communications, British Airways, British Telecom, The Sunday Telegraph, Buy Thorn EMI, Northern Leisure, Take up David Brown rights, Hold British Airways, The Mail on Sunday, Buy Sage, Metro Radio, Church's China.

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USA \$	1.673

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar 1.5735 (+0.0015)

German mark 2.2674 (-0.0026)

Exchange index 84.9 (+0.2)

Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share 2484.9 (-29.2)

FT-SE 100 3261.0 (-49.3)

New York Dow Jones 4341.33 (-89.23)

Tokyo Nikkei Ave 16140.85 (-279.91)

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 34

FLABELLATION

(a) The use of a fan to cool something. Nothing to do with flab, everything to do with flabella, Latin for a fan. "And now my dearest girl," you whisper to your sloppypous inamorata, "would you care for a little flabellation."

VERMIAN

(a) Wormlike, from the Latin vermis a worm. Vermicular means much the same, and vermiculation is a state of infestation by worms, or transformation into worms.

GLABROUS

(a) Having a surface free from hair or any other attachments, smooth-skinned, smooth-leaved. From the Latin glaber bald, in Catullus, a page, ie beardless.

QUEER PLUNGER

(b) An adventurous 18th-century con man. According to Grasse's Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue: "Queer plungers are cheats who throw themselves into the water, in order that they may be taken up by their accomplices, who carry them to one of the houses appointed by the Humane Society for the recovery of drowned persons, where they are rewarded by the Society with a guinea each; and the supposed drowned person, pretending he was driven to that extremity by great necessity, is also frequently sent away with a contribution in his pocket."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1... Nxd4+! 2 Rxd4 (2 exd4 is met the same way) 2... Rge1+ 3 Kf3 Qxd3.

Will ICS survive the legacy of Eighties' boom?

FIVE law lords will ask themselves a tricky question today. What should the Investors' Compensation Scheme (ICS) pay out to the customers of collapsed investment firms under its existing rules? Or, put another way, what do ICS's rules mean?

The lower courts and the Court of Appeal have grappled with the question for more than two years and failed to find an answer. The House of Lords is the final arbiter; the financial futures of thousands of investors hang on its decision. But the viability of the ICS, the industry-funded scheme set up in 1988 to protect investors, could also be at stake.

At issue in the House of Lords is whether the ICS should pay compensation to thousands of mostly elderly people who were persuaded to take out home income plans, mortgaging their homes in the late 1980s and then using part of the resulting lump sum, not for investment, but to buy

cars, holidays or other items. This was a variation on the disastrous home income plans widely sold in the late 1980s, where people were encouraged to mortgage their homes and invest the resulting lump sum in an investment bond, run by an insurance company or financial adviser.

But the value of their investments plummeted, along with the stock market, and their capital was eroded by withdrawals of income to cover higher mortgage repayments as interest rates rose. In some cases, the interest was rolled up and added to the loan, creating an ever-growing debt.

Barnett Sampson, the firm of solicitors representing 400 home income plan victims, says that the ICS should compensate investors for their total loss, including sums spent. Compensation paid out by the ICS should be the same as in a court of law, which would put people back

Sara McConnell heralds judgment day for the Investors' Compensation Scheme

In their pre-plan position, it says. Last summer, the Court of Appeal agreed with Barnett Sampson that the ICS should compensate for the whole mortgage debt.

ICS, faced with an extra bill that could stretch to £40 million, took the case to the House of Lords. It argues that investors who had spent money have already benefited and that they should only be compensated for investment losses. However, it claims that its concerns extend beyond the outcome of this case to questions about how it investigates cases and compensates investors.

At the moment, it has to prove that what it is paying out is "fair and proper". If its

decisions, not based on case law, have to reflect those of a court of law, it would be forced to ask itself what a court of law would do, leading to long delays in paying out and costly legal advice, it says. It said: "We are a final safety net. We can't afford to pay more on a goodwill basis." The ICS fears that if its costs escalate too much, the industry has moved to cap its exposure to claims, forcing the ICS to scale down payouts if claims exceed the cap.

Richard Barnett, of Barnett Sampson, however, says that the judgment will not be as far-reaching as ICS makes out. Cases where investors have spent money

rather than losing it at the hands of an adviser who then defaults will be rare in future, he believes. ICS also has the right to recover the cost of claims from third parties, in this case building societies. ICS has served a writ on ten building societies that lent much of the money for mortgages taken out as part of home income plans, demanding compensation.

Home income plans rank among the most disastrous attempts by parts of the financial services industry to cash in on the 1980s boom. The assumption underlying home income plan was that house prices would continue to rise. Stock markets would also continue to rise, generating a good income on investments that would pay off the interest on the mortgage. Neither assumption was borne out by events.

Sales of investment bond-based home income plans were effectively banned in

1990. Firms selling the plans almost all collapsed, leaving the ICS to pick up most of the pieces. The most active firms were almost all independent financial advisers, regulated by the now-defunct financial intermediaries, managers and brokers regulatory association (Fimbra). ICS has paid out £30 million in about 2,000 cases. Claims of £12 million could still be outstanding.

It is possible that the law lords could agree with the ICS that it does not have to put investors back in their original position, while still upholding the Court of Appeal's finding that investors are entitled to this compensation in law. Barnett Sampson will then activate writs that it has served on building societies, including Cheltenham & Gloucester and Alliance Leicester, and serve a writ on the West Bromwich - all of which funded loans for home income plans.

Bids for VSEL set to continue

By ERIC REGULY

MICHAEL HESELTINE, President of the Board of Trade, is expected to announce as early as tomorrow that British Aerospace and GEC can renew their rival offers for VSEL, Britain's only submarine maker.

Mr Heseltine, who received the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on the two bids before his trade mission to China, is unlikely to impose any conditions on BAE. But he may insist that GEC keep VSEL's Barrow shipyard, as well as its own yard in Yarrow, in operation for a certain number of years.

The City expects bids to be launched almost immediately if no conditions are imposed on either company. In October BAE offered 3.3 BAE shares for every VSEL share. At BAE's current price of 540p, that would value VSEL at £18 a share and £684 million for the company. GEC offered £532 million in cash before the MMC inquiry was called.

GEC, which owns 14.9 per cent of VSEL, is expected to come back with an offer less than the face value of BAE's. Analysts said BAE can afford to pay a higher price - perhaps £2 a share - because of

UK and Germany reject call to build son of Concorde

By ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A CALL for the development of a new 350-seat supersonic airliner to replace Concorde has been rejected by the British and German partners in Airbus Industrie.

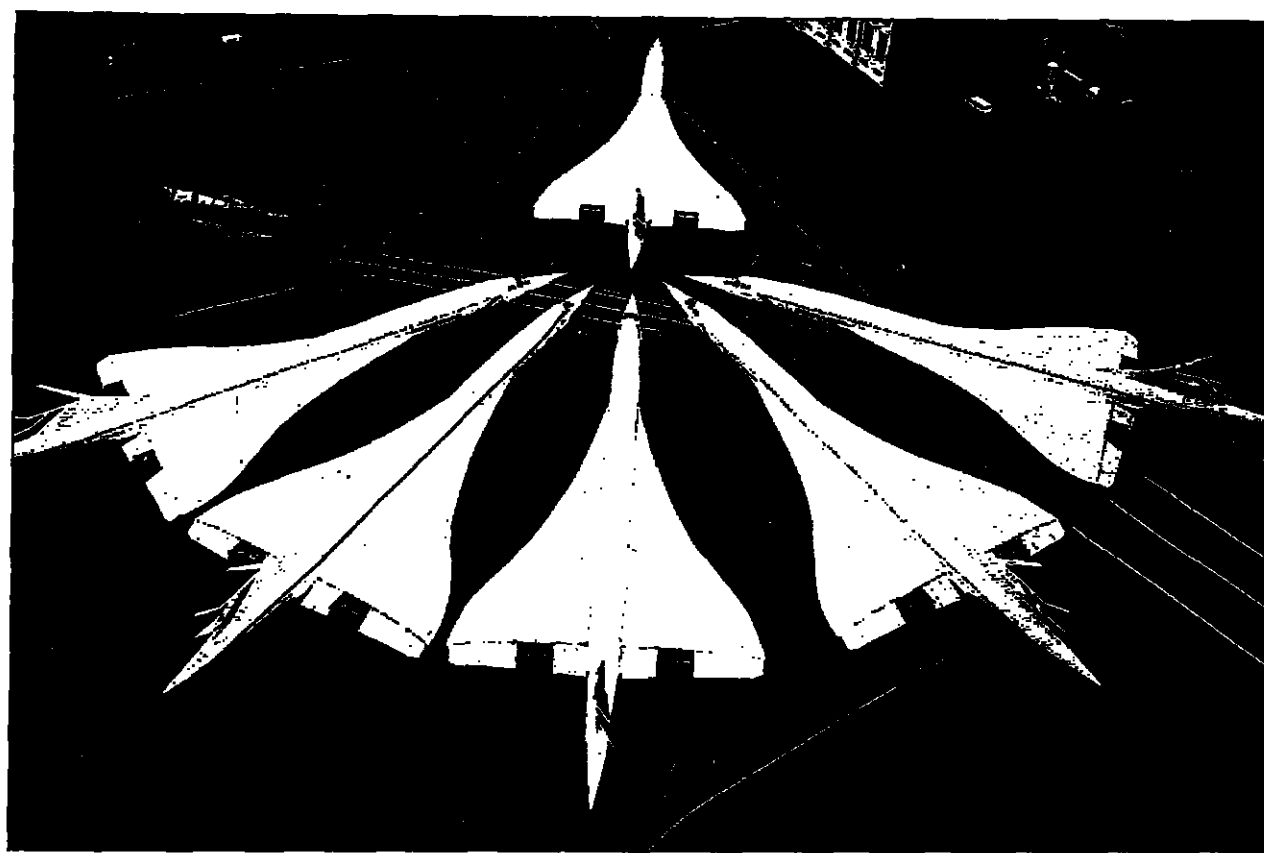
They have told Aerospaciale, their French partner in the European planemaker consortium, that they do not believe demand will be strong enough to justify the \$15 billion to \$20 billion development costs, even though it would cut the journey time from London to Tokyo to just six hours.

Claude Terrazzoni, head of the aircraft division at Aerospaciale, said: "Our European partners think this market may not develop. Neither Britain nor Germany believes in the project."

Despite the rejection, Aerospaciale, whose former Sud Aviation developed the 100-seat Concorde with British partners 25 years ago, is determined to maintain its campaign for the creation of son of Concorde. "We believe in the supersonic plane," said Mr Terrazzoni.

According to Aerospaciale, a 350-seat transport, flying at twice the speed of sound, would cost some \$300 million to \$320 million. That is twice as much as a subsonic Boeing 747 jumbo.

But Mr Terrazzoni insists that tickets, costing 10 to 20 per cent more than the business fare for a subsonic jet, would find buyers if they were supported by a premium city



Flight of fancy: France's partners in Airbus Industrie say demand would not be strong enough to justify the new plane

centre to city centre service. According to Aerospaciale, the key market for the plane will be the Pacific rim around the year 2020, as demand for long-distance flights accelerates.

Since 75 per cent of flights to the Pacific rim are over water, the company believes opposition to the sonic boom would prove less strident. American objections to the noise of

Concorde's four Olympus engines were largely responsible for the failure of Concorde to become a commercial success.

Louis Gallois, president of Aerospaciale, said he would continue to lobby for a research programme to develop technologies for the plane.

"If we don't take the initiative, no one will," he said. "I am sure that one day the

Americans will start and we will have to react. There is no debate about the supersonic plane in Europe. There is in the USA."

Although Aerospaciale's partners in Airbus Industrie have rejected the supersonic plan, they are still debating whether to proceed with a new double-deck rival to the 747. Talks between the Airbus

partners and Boeing over a joint project have made little headway.

However, Airbus has apparently reshaped its plans for a 600-seat to 800-seat plane, codenamed the A3XX. If Boeing will not collaborate, Aerospaciale hopes Airbus will press ahead with a 500-seat version of the A3XX with other partners.

Ross Tieman, in Spain, on hopes for regional jets

Aerospace groups court China

BRITISH AEROSPACE and Aerospaciale of France will launch a new regional jet of their own if they fail to win a beauty parade for partners being conducted by the Chinese and the Koreans.

Aerospaciale, which is expected to sign a partnership agreement with BAE next week, is so committed to the regional aircraft business - although the market is notoriously unprofitable - that it is prepared to compete head-on with an Asian partnership backed by Boeing of America.

The Anglo-French consortium would seek other partners, including Daimler-Benz Aerospace (Dasa) and Asian aerospace companies, to launch a twin-engine replacement for the BAE regional jet. Alternatively, a small jet could be developed by Airbus Industrie, the successful European jetliner consortium made up of Aerospaciale, Dasa, BAE and Casa of Spain.

Joining battle in a market barely able to support two rival planes is seen as a last resort by Aerospaciale. Louis Gallois, Aerospaciale's presi-

dent, has opened talks with Dasa to try to heal a dangerous rift between the two leading Airbus partners caused by his regional link-up with BAE. M Gallois wants a joint approach to the Chinese with Dasa, which controls Fokker, the Dutch regional jet maker, and which is bidding alone against Aerospaciale/BAE and Boeing for the Asian prize.

"The Chinese have said that they do not want to choose between the Europeans," M Gallois told journalists at a seminar near Gernon, Spain, over the weekend. "I think the Europeans have a strong chance if they are united, but a poor chance separately."

Boeing, the Europeans' arch-rival, dominates the fast-growing Chinese market. Although the regional jet planned by the Chinese and Korean consortium will be assembled in Asia, after 2000,

participation would give the European aerospace industry a vital bridgehead into Pacific Asia, the world's strongest aircraft market.

Whereas Aerospaciale sees the European role largely as "technical assistance" with design certification and marketing, Dasa is anxious to ensure work for its factories. It has also insisted on leading any European collaboration in regional aircraft. Pressure on

in the combined marketing and support operation.

Design work will be concentrated in Toulouse, along with assembly of aircraft from parts supplied by the partners.

The link will create the world's largest regional aircraft group, with combined sales of £850 million. Collaboration will help all three partners to reduce their losses in the regional aircraft business, in which excess capacity is an old problem, and will enhance Aerospaciale's attractions to investors.

Aerospaciale is likely to be privatised by the new right-of-centre government in Paris. The group is, however, undercapitalised, and any sale is likely to include an issue of new shares taking the group's £15 billion (£1.85 billion) valuation.

Privatisation will make it easier for Aerospaciale to develop through joint ventures and acquisitions. Apart from the BAE deal, Aerospaciale has now reached agreement with Dasa over a joint venture in missiles. Talks with Dasa about a joint venture in satellites are also progressing well.

Decision day on link for societies

By ROBERT MILLER

THE Halifax and Leeds Permanent building societies report that they have received exceptionally large mail bags from members voting on their proposed merger and subsequent stock market conversion.

The societies will hold separate special meetings today in Halifax and Leeds to enable members to cast their final votes and to ask the respective boards of directors any questions.

Both the Halifax and the Leeds are confident that they will receive approval to proceed with their plan to create a £90 billion Halifax bank, which will dominate the personal financial services market.

No precise figures will be put on the value of the free shares bonus that will be given to members after the stock market flotation in 1997. The best estimate is that about 10 million qualifying members of the Leeds and the Halifax could be in line for payouts of between £500 and £600.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

SIB wants more regulatory power

THE Securities and Investments Board, the chief city regulator, is in talks with the Treasury about increasing the power it has over the other regulators. At present, SIB does not have the power to dictate to the other self-regulating organisations (SROs) about the way they conduct their business - it can only advise. It does, however, have the power to take away recognition from a regulating body if necessary. SIB's bid to increase its power is part of a review of the regulatory structure, which resulted in the merger between Fimbra and Lauro to form the Personal Investment Authority (PIA).

As well as hoping to increase its powers over other City regulators, SIB is also attempting to obtain more powers to act against errant firms, including the ability to petition for bankruptcy. Increasing SIB's power would involve a change in legislation and could take some time to materialise. SIB's bid to increase its powers may well increase friction with the other SROs, comprising the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation, the Securities and Futures Authority and the PIA. Quite a few members of the financial services industry believe that the current two-tier system of regulation with SIB representing the lead regulator is wasteful and leads to a duplication of effort. A recent High Court judgment emphasised that the relationship between SIB and the other SROs is only advisory.

Leeson queries for Lyell

SIR Nicholas Lyell, Attorney-General, is to face questions over the failure of the Serious Fraud Office to question Nick Leeson, the former Barings derivatives trader held in a Frankfurt jail pending the outcome of extradition proceedings launched by the Singaporean authorities. Denis MacShane, Labour MP for Rotherham, has tabled a series of written questions on the collapse of Barings, caused by Mr Leeson's excessive trading in derivatives. Mr MacShane is unhappy with the replies, which he claims revealed that the Government has no interest in pursuing the case. He said: "The Serious Fraud Office sent investigators to Singapore yet Leeson, who is willing to spill the beans, sits unbothered by either SFO or Bank of England investigators."

Two held over BCCI

TWO former Peruvian Central Bank officials sought on corruption charges in connection with the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) were arrested in Brazil and Peru's Government plans to seek their extradition. Leonel Figueroa and Hector Neyra, the central bank's president and its general manager during the Government of the former President Alan Garcia, were detained on Saturday by police in Curitiba in southern Brazil, newspaper and television reports said. They are accused of taking a \$3.2 million bribe from BCCI to withdraw \$270 million of Peru's reserves from Deutschland Bank and Swiss Bank and to deposit the money in the now-defunct BCCI, which was shut down worldwide amid massive fraud allegations.

Consumer upturn near

THE long-awaited upturn in consumer spending should take place next year, according to Professor Douglas McWilliams, economic adviser to the Chartered Institute of Marketing. Professor McWilliams claims that Britain's high street retailers should see business pick up as a result. He argues that wages are rising faster than prices. "Even without tax decreases next year, I believe this would provide consumers with more disposable income," he says. His views contrast sharply with many high street retailers, who say they see little prospect of an upturn in spending. However, Professor McWilliams says: "Next year should be the turning point for consumer spending and will see the start of the retail recovery."

Asda joins cola war

THE battle for supremacy in the cola market steps up today when Asda, the supermarket group, launches its own-label "no-sugar" cola. Asda's launch comes in the wake of highly successful moves into own-label fizzy drinks by supermarket rivals. J Sainsbury's own-label Classic Cola now accounts for about 60 per cent of its total cola sales and the supermarket chain claims an 11 per cent share of the UK market. Coca-Cola remains the dominant brand, with a 61 per cent share of the market. Asda argues, however, that no-sugar colas are the fastest growing area of the market. Pepsi controls 19 per cent of the no-sugar market, selling 330ml cans at 39p each. Asda, by charging 25p for its no-sugar cola, plans to undercut Pepsi by 8p a can.

Cadbury's Russian move

CADBURY SCHWEPPE'S, the confectionary group, is expected to confirm reports today that it plans to build a £75 million factory near St Petersburg. It should be completed in the second half of 1996. The company, which sells one million chocolate bars a day in Russia, hopes the factory will help to double its market share to nearer 10 per cent and intends to use it as a base for exports to other countries in the former Soviet Union. Cadbury currently supplies Russia with chocolate bars from plants in Britain, Ireland, Germany and South Africa. Mars is also building a plant in Russia, which is Europe's third largest chocolate market, while Suchard and Nestlé have invested in local Russian companies.

Heseltine bullish for prospects in Peking

By COLIN NARBROUGH
WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH exporters to China can rapidly make up for any loss of business that has arisen from the London-Peking dispute over Hong Kong's future, according to Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, just back from China. To help to improve the political climate for intensified trade, he has agreed to set up a bilateral structure involving regular ministerial meetings to foster commercial links.

In an interview with *The Times* after his return at the weekend from a week-long visit to China, Mr Heseltine said that the sheer scale of opportunity in the fast-growing Chinese market meant that business lost over the past two or three years would pale into insignificance compared with what lies ahead.

Mr Heseltine's visit, the first by a Cabinet Minister to China for two years,

has reduced concern in the business community that the long dispute between Peking and London over arrangements for Hong Kong after its return to Chinese sovereignty in 1997, had prompted China to restrict dealings with UK firms.

Mr Heseltine said that any loss of business was "not as much as the headlines would lead one to believe" and Britain remained the leading European investor in China and the leading country in Europe in technology transfer.

The trade mission he led to China aboard a specially leased jumbo jet was the largest ever from Britain. Well over £1 billion worth of deals were struck, with more expected to follow. The mission started in Peking and went on to Shanghai and Canton. Mr Heseltine said that the reception he was given by Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister, Wu Li, the International Trade Minister, and other Chinese officials was "extremely

warm". This contrasted with the continued bitterness of exchanges between London and Peking over Hong Kong.

Mr Heseltine said that he made clear to the Chinese that Britain had "no other agenda than the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong after 1997". He sought to stay away from the substance of the dispute over Hong Kong and expressed the hope that his visit meant a significant improvement in bilateral relations.

The "joint framework" that the two governments will set up will allow regular ministerial discussions on promoting business between British companies and China's state enterprises, municipal authorities and growing private sector. Mr Heseltine underlined the continued importance of the public sector in China, where state enterprises still account for the bulk of output. "China has dramatic plans for increasing imports over the next few years," he said.



Li Peng, China's Prime Minister, aims to boost trade

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Lloyd's increases names' settlement package to £2.5bn

By SARAH BAGNALL
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

LLOYD'S of London is attempting to take the sting out of tomorrow's announcement of further losses of £1.5 billion by unveiling a settlement package of more than £2.5 billion to loss-making names.

After tense negotiations last week the value of the offer was raised from £2 billion to more than £2.5 billion — significantly above the £900 million names were offered in the last settlement initiative in May 1993. But the offer is less than the losses suffered by the names. The

forecast £1.5 billion loss, which relates to 1992, pushes the total losses in the last five years to almost £9 billion. More than 20,000 names are attempting to recover their losses by taking legal action, which Lloyd's is trying to halt by offering names an out-of-court settlement.

The latest offer, six months in the making, is in two parts — cash and credits. The cash element, in the form of cheques, has been dubbed "Harrods money" within Lloyd's because names can freely spend it — at Harrods if they wish.

The size of the cheque will be determined by the strength of a

names' legal actions. That is, each cheque will reflect the amount a name would expect to win from court actions, in turn determined by the level of insurance cover available to meet the award.

The balance of the offer is expected to be in the form of a credit. The drawback for names is that these credits can only be used to discharge debts to Lloyd's, which amount to £800 million. But still under discussion is the possibility that the credits could be used to help to pay names' way into Equitas, the reinsurance company being set up to take over their old-year liabilities.

The offer, as with last time, is believed to have been structured to favour the hardest-hit names. While it will cover all names, it will offer those with exposure to more than one significant loss-making syndicate an extra piece of the cake. The details of these loadings, paid in credits, have yet to be finalised but it will be more sophisticated than last time. It is expected to be less related rather than purely syndicate based.

The financing of the offer comes from numerous sources. Funding the cash element of the offer are the 98 errors and omissions insurers, who provided cover to the Lloyd's

agencies being sued by the names, together with other Lloyd's professionals and related parties. The E&O insurers are thought to be contributing some £300 million — double the amount offered last time.

A further £100 million is expected to come from the members' agents, again double their contribution last time, while insurance brokers and accountancy firms are contributing further sums. However, in marked contrast to before, part of the funding is to come from ongoing names. Lloyd's proposes moving from a three-year accounting system to a one-year system at the end

of the year by closing 1993, 1994 and 1995 years of account. This will release profits early. Part of these profits will help to fund the offer.

In a separate move, the Lloyd's attempt to recover £300 million of unpaid debts is expected to take a new twist today when, for the first time in the insurance market's 308-year history, Lloyd's agencies will issue writs against names.

This is the first tangible evidence of the attempt to shift the burden of debt collection from the corporation to the market's professionals. A total of 44 writs are being served on 25 names.

Cabinet to spell out help for industry

By PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government will claim today that Britain's industrial competitiveness is improving as it launches a wide-ranging series of proposals aimed at supporting British business.

John Major will lead a team of Cabinet ministers in publishing the Government's latest White Paper on industrial competitiveness.

The document will attempt to chart improvements in Britain's industrial performance and propose a range of new moves that ministers believe will help it further.

Business groups will welcome the proposals although they are likely to receive a sceptical reception from Labour and the trade unions.

Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, will unveil the White Paper in the Commons this afternoon before he and Mr Major, together with a range of other ministers, including Kenneth Clarke, promote it at a formal launch afterwards.

The document will examine industrial performance sector by sector. It will not, however, publicly detail the Government's estimate that Britain is some 25 per cent behind its principal industrial rivals in terms of competitiveness.

Expectations are that it will maintain that although Britain boasts has many world-class performing companies, most still form a "long tail" of industrial underperformers.

Barclays Mercantile found that more than 60 per cent of directors surveyed had "used cash or overdrafts to fund the purchase of capital equipment in the first quarter of 1995. The finance house argues that it would be more appropriate for companies to use long-term funding linked to the lifespan of the equipment.

Cash was the most popular method of funding across all industry sectors, with 50 per cent of those surveyed using their own funds for capital purchases. Only 23 per cent had used hire-purchase agreements and only 10 per cent had used leasing.

Charting progress, page 42

Referral threat to S&N bid

By MELVYN MARCKUS
CITY EDITOR

SPECULATION over the likelihood of a referral of Scottish & Newcastle's proposed £425 million acquisition of Courage to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission is mounting.

Scottish & Newcastle's purchase of Courage from Foster's Brewing of Australia would create Britain's largest brewing combine with a claimed market share of around 25 per cent, some 2 per cent above Bass.

City analysts argue that the amalgam would actually give S&N/Courage a market share of 30 per cent, possibly more. Earlier this year Ted Kunkel, Foster's chief executive, declared that Courage had "increased volumes by 24 per cent and market share to 19.3 per cent". Warburg Securities, broker to Scottish & Newcastle, estimated last autumn that Courage's market share amounted to 20 per cent, with S&N's share put at 12 per cent, indicating a combined share of 32 per cent.

Analysts believe that by referring to a combined market share of "UK beer consumption" S&N is expanding the market definition to include personal imports, namely beer sold outside the UK but consumed in the UK. These total some 1.5 million barrels, effectively inflating the size of the market by more than 4 per cent.

Camelot faces protests over runaway profit

By JON ASHWORTH

CAMELOT GROUP, the National Lottery operator, is bracing itself for a storm of protest when its maiden set of financial results is published early next month.

This first complete snapshot of Camelot's financial affairs will show that profits in the year to March 31 have raced far ahead of expectations on the back of huge public interest in the National Lottery.

The sum paid to Camelot to cover operating costs and profits is thought to have reached nearly £90 million in the first 20 weeks alone — far higher than projections suggested. Camelot will earn an average of 5 per cent of sales over the seven-year term of its licence, but a skew towards higher earnings in the early stages means that the figure is running at closer to 9 per cent. The five members of the Camelot consortium — Cadbury Schweppes, GTECH, Racal, De La Rue, and ICL — are expected to share a pre-tax profit of £15 million to £20 million in the first financial year, once operating costs have been stripped out.

Camelot is under no obligation to disclose its earnings, but has decided to do so in the interests of good governance.

Tim Holley, the chief executive, is expected to emerge as the highest-paid director, on a basic salary of £240,000. Lottery sales in the 20 weeks to March 31 reached an estimated £1 billion.

The disclosures will fuel the debate over whether Camelot is being paid too much for its services. Richard Branson's rival UK Lottery Foundation had pledged to donate profits to charity, and the decision to award the National Lottery licence to a commercial operator sparked widespread controversy.

Camelot will point to huge start-up costs of more than £100 million and will argue that immense sums were at stake if it failed to meet the November 19 launch date. Camelot faced a fine of £1 million for every day over the deadline. A delay of more than a week would have forced Camelot to put the launch back to mid-February 1995 to avoid clashing with Christmas, resulting in a potential £90 million fine.

Camelot also faces a draconian penalty if its licence is revoked before the seven-year term is up. The penalty would be 25 per cent of the previous year's turnover, which, on current estimates of £5 billion in sales a year, would mean a £125 million fine. Camelot will claim that the ongoing financial risk justifies its earnings. Ticket sales are averaging

£105 million a week, making the UK's lottery the largest in the world, ahead of Spain's and Japan's. Punters are spending £62 million to £63 million a week on the on-line game, and a further £43 million to £44 million on instant games. Total ticket sales have reached £1.8 billion. Camelot had expected it to take at least two years to reach these levels.

Camelot expects to lose some business to rival lottery ventures, including the revamped NHS Loto, which is currently advertising heavily on television. Scratch-n-Win, an instant game venture backed by Inter Lotto of America, has signed up more than 5,000 outlets and sold two million scratch cards in three weeks. Scratch-n-Win is being distributed through Nurdin & Peacock, the cash-and-carry wholesaler, and WH Smith's wholesale newspaper distribution arm, which has access to Tesco, John Menzies and other high street chains. The cards will also be sold in pubs in London and the South East.

Sales of Camelot's instant games have hit £300 million in two months. By the end of last week, 109 people had won the £50,000 instant jackpot, and 12 had won the £25,000 top prize on the second game in the series, Cash Roulene. Camelot plans to introduce new games on a rolling basis as old stock is used up.



Tim Holley is expected to emerge as Camelot's highest-paid director, on £240,000

Murdoch to seek local partners if Italian TV deal goes ahead

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

RUPERT MURDOCH, chairman and chief executive of The News Corporation, would seek local partners for the purchase of Silvio Berlusconi's television networks in Italy if the deal were to go ahead.

Speaking on BBC's *Money Programme* last night, Mr Murdoch said that tentative estimates of the value of the Berlusconi deal were in the order of \$2 billion. He added that he did not know yet whether any such deal would be done through News International, the European subsidiary of News Corp and parent company of *The Times*, or through BSkyB, which is 40

per cent owned by News International.

"If it comes off, and Mr Berlusconi agrees to sell, we'll be looking for Italian partners as the first priority," he said.

Mr Murdoch said that he would also be interested in buying CNN, the worldwide cable television news service controlled by Ted Turner "if it was for sale".

He added that he did not expect to see any visible results from News Corp's recent alliance with the American telephone company MCI in the near future. "I think that it's several years, five years, before you see the completion of

the fibre-optic network in America; and in Britain and in Europe that's at least 15 years away," he said.

Referring to his British interests, Mr Murdoch said he had not wanted New Century Television, a consortium in which BSkyB holds a major interest, to bid for the licence for Channel 5, Britain's fifth terrestrial television station. In the Channel 5 bidding round, which closed on May 2, New Century Television submitted a bid of £2 million — £22 million less than City expectations and £34 million below the highest bid.

Mr Murdoch described the

£2 million figure as a "grudging compromise".

He added: "I said we shouldn't really bid; that was my feeling. But the management were very keen on bidding... this is just a matter of commercial judgment. I think it's going to be very, very hard for Channel 5 to be commercially successful."

He denied he had encouraged New Century Television to under-bid as a result of pressure from the Government on him not to expand his British media interests.

Commenting on the Government's forthcoming White Paper on cross-media ownership, expected to be published this week, Mr Murdoch said he was not worried about suggestions of a 15 per cent ceiling on ownership of the media market.

"Our media empire in Britain was recently shown, I think, to own 10 per cent of the media in Britain or 10.8 per cent or something," he said.

He emphasised that it was "not possible" for one player to dominate the world media market.

Mr Murdoch said that the Editors of *The Times* and his sister paper, *The Sunday Times*, would decide who to support at the next General Election.

But he added that he would have some input into the decision of which party *The Sun*, another News International title, would back.

In Mr Murdoch's words: "We'll have to find out what the difference is between Mr Blair and Mr Major before we make that decision... right now, from this distance, it's rather confusing."

ICI raises bid for Grow

By ERIC REGULY

IMPERIAL Chemical Industries is likely to learn today whether the increased bid it submitted over the weekend for Grow Group, the American paintmaker, was enough to beat an offer from its arch-rival, Sherwin-Williams.

ICI, led by Sir Ronald Hampel, the chairman, would not disclose the value of its new bid. Its previous offer was \$17.50 a share for the 25 per cent stake held by Corimon, a Venezuelan company, and \$18.10 a share for the remainder, valuing Grow Group at about \$290 million. Sherwin-Williams topped ICI with a bid worth \$19.50 a share, for a total valuation of \$320 million.

Grow, with annual sales



Hampel: facing rival

larged group, which would be based in Ohio, would be \$1.5 billion.

ICI said that Grow would be a good fit because most of its outlets are in the south and in the west, areas of weakness for Glidden, whose strength is in the mid-west.

Grow put itself up for sale because it does not know whether it can survive as an independent company. Industry margins are tight because of strong competition and high raw material prices. Furthermore, Grow stretched itself financially when it bought Sinclair, a Californian paintmaker, for \$100 million.

Grow recently reported a third-quarter loss of \$868,000, against a profit of \$1.28 million in the same period a year ago.

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